

# LENZ FAMILY

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ELLA ELIZABETH LENZ  
*(Mrs. Albert William Patten)*

# THE LENZ FAMILY

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## HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN BRANCH

ESTABLISHED AT STONE ARABIA, N. Y., IN 1854

*by*

FRIEDRICH KONRAD LENZ

*of*

WERDORF, GERMANY

---

*Compiled by*

ELLA ELIZABETH LENZ  
(*Mrs. Albert William Patten*)

PITTSFIELD, MASS.

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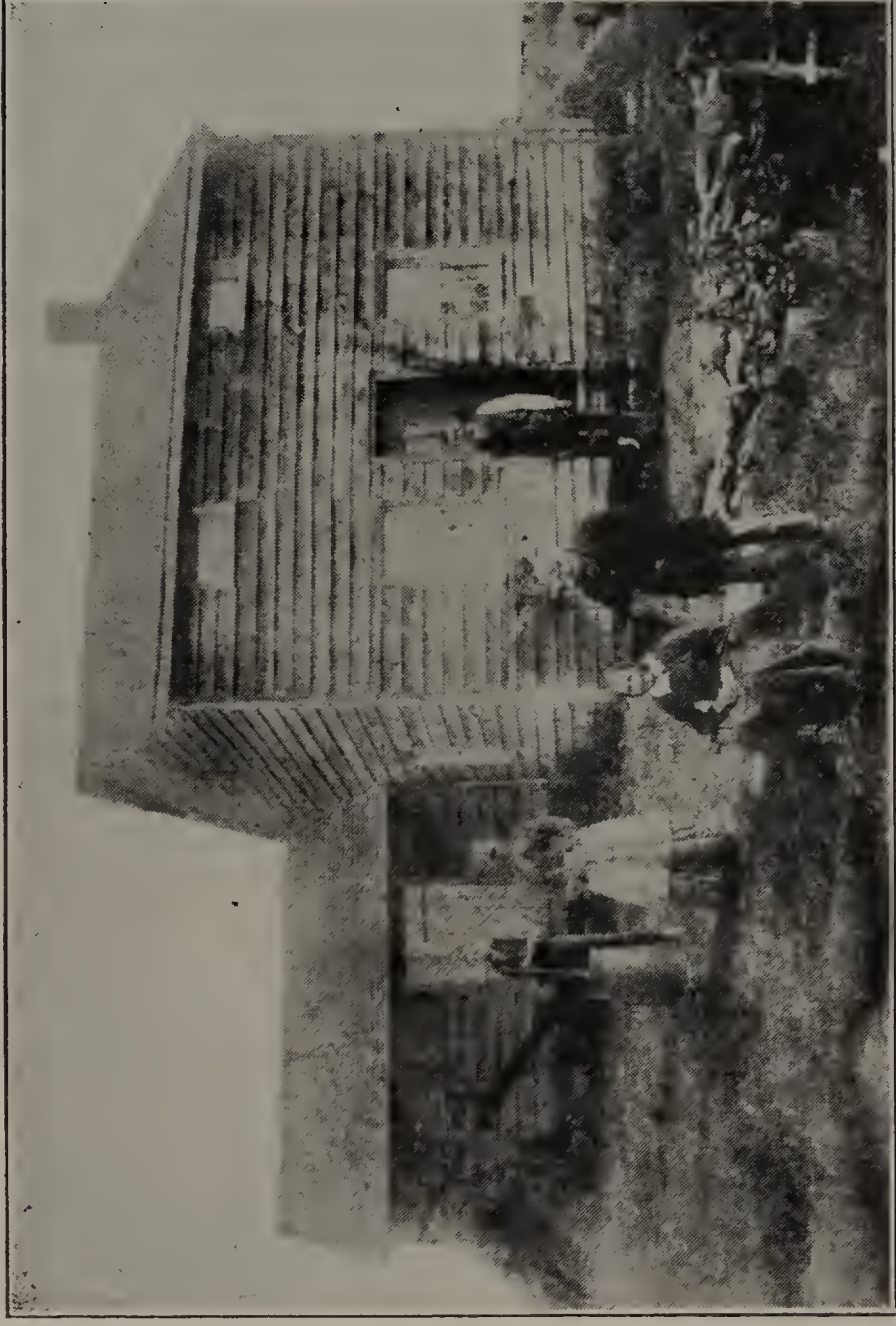
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Charles F. Lenz - 5.00



THE OLD HOMESTEAD AT STONE ARABIA



In the foreground Grandmother and Grandfather, their son John  
at the door, daughter Elizabeth and grandson Clark Lenz

## FOREWORD

The outstanding personalities of this Genealogical Record are Friedrich Konrad Lenz and his wife, Elizabethe Henriette Regel Lenz, of Werdorf, Germany, founders of the American branch of the Lenz Clan, first established at Stone Arabia, N. Y. Their courage, wisdom, vision and integrity inspired in me the desire to compile this record as a sincere tribute and an enduring memorial.

They are designated as the First Generation in America, their children as the Second Generation, and other descendants fall into their respective places. As you read you will readily discern that your Historian—Ella Elizabeth Lenz—is of the Third Generation, the granddaughter of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabethe Henriette Regel Lenz, and the daughter of Henry Karl Lenz of Gloversville, N. Y. The record of this branch of the family will be found in Chapter VI.

Wherever the term "Grandfather" or "Grandmother" is used, it always refers to the founders of our American family. The maiden name of each daughter is the German name that was given her at baptism as it appears in the old family Bible brought from Germany. The baptismal names of the sons appear in parenthesis beneath the Anglicized name by which they were known in America.

Of all readers of this record I ask but one favor—easily granted—that you begin at the Foreword and read to the End without omitting intervening chapters, or even sentences, that seem unimportant or less interesting. Only as these facts are thus read with continuity can each individual hope to understandingly find his historical and proper place in the "Familia."

As we are heirs of the past so are we "trustees of the future." Thus let us each seek to learn all that we may of our Clan in order that we may more loyally and faithfully carry on the name through today and tomorrow.

ELLA ELIZABETH LENZ.

## APPRECIATIONS

My first word of appreciation is gratefully expressed to Dr. Fritz Freitag, Professor at a Technical School at Köln am Rhein (Cologne, Germany,) whose great grandfather and great grandmother were also mine. It was he who directed me to some of the sources from which I received information in Germany, and, himself supplied many important historical facts as well as other data of interest in this record.

To his mother, Elizabeth Regel Freitag, of Werdorf, Germany, I am likewise deeply indebted for intimate personal glimpses of my grandparents before the migration to America.

To my own mother, Anna Margaret Kinkle Lenz, now approaching her ninetieth birthday, I owe much for the valuable information she was able to supply regarding the family after the arrival in America.

But for the gracious cooperation, and the wonderfully retentive memories of these elderly kins folk, many cherished incidents out of the past would never have been learned or preserved for us and for future generations.

To all members of the Lenz Clan who assisted in any way—by word, thought, or deed—in the assembling and the publication of these facts, I offer my sincere appreciation and gratitude.



## INTRODUCTION

*"How sweet and reassuring the pale faces of those who smile at us from some dim corner of our memories."*

Revered and cherished memories crowd themselves in the foreground of consciousness as I attempt to review the story of the Lenz Family through "the dim procession of the years."

It is with a feeling of humility and inadequacy that I approach a subject so vastly comprehensive as the history of an organization designated as a Clan or a "Familia." So many intangible, indefinable things must, of necessity, be omitted, yet, they are the invisible, vital influences that have largely been responsible for the development of the family along fundamentally similar lines, and, for the digressions from the stereotyped mode of thought and action, so fatal to human progress.

My task is as if one were to attempt to confine to a single canvas all the glories of night with its ineffable stars, its silvery dews, its moonlit, haunting shadows as it passes quietly and lightly in the open world. That nightly miracle of beauty, of imperceptible, noiseless, far reaching influence, and, the gentle slipping away to give place to the dawn of a rosy new day, baffles the brush of even the master artist. Likewise, the human pen cannot portray the life of a family—the unconscious shedding of influence, the nameless joys and sorrows, the loyalties, the sacrifices, the unobserved heroisms, the kindly deeds of love, charity, and sympathy that fall like soft perfumed dews upon tired souls, and then the silent passing through "The Sunset Gate" to make room for the birth of a new generation.

For the most part, this history is but a record of these commonplace, homey details of daily life lived honestly and uprightly before God and man, motivated in no way by the thought or hope that ever anyone would discover in these humble family affairs anything of interest worthy of recording and preserving for future generations. Yet, there lies latent in all of us a commendable desire that our name and memory shall live on, therefore, with this thought in mind—that the "Hand of Time" shall not wholly sweep into oblivion the ancient and worthy name of Lenz—I have conscientiously assembled these historical and traditional statements.

The purpose of a Genealogy and family History is primarily to preserve for present and future generations the lineal descent of that family, and to sketch the biographies of those of the same kindred.

This record of the Lenz family is compiled, not with the cold deliberation and accuracy of one preparing an inventory, so that, if I have departed from the prescribed method by including reminiscences, anecdotes, impressions, or traditions, it is with the thought that, through these more intimate personal glimpses, one is better equipped to visualize the personalities of these forebears—the char-

acteristics, the ideals, the abilities, even the aptitudes and habits that have survived the centuries, and are likely to persist in spite of differences of time, environment and training. Likewise, I have recorded wherever possible causes of death, imperfections in health, outstanding idiosyncrasies with no intent to criticise or ridicule, but again, to show possible endowments for children of the future.

In recent years it has become something of a deplorable fad to emphasize, much too extravagantly, the defects of our heroic men and women in order to make them seem more human and real. However, I have consumed very little time or space in commenting concerning the family "flaws," for, there has been so much of the beautiful, the staunch, the inspiring to record that these occasional deviations, while they have quite evident value, seem comparatively inconsequential. Let no one, therefore, feel that I have attempted to portray several centuries of Lenz progenitors, each bearing a record of Saint or super-man. On the contrary, my hope is, that, given the characteristics and achievements of those who have been responsible for the continuity of the generations, you, who read this record, will be able to readily supply the motives, ideals, incentives and judgments that actuated their conduct in prosperity or adversity, in success or failure; the temptations; the sins of commission or omission to which such temperaments would in all probability fall heir.

If the general trend of living is upward, then that life may be counted a success, and, it is with a feeling of rare satisfaction that, throughout this history, I may with justice emphasize the successes and count the failures almost negligible. That one's family has survived through many centuries and persevered in the struggle to maintain certain ideals is in itself something to be counted with pride, and, as we trace our likenesses and differences to our forebears, it is indeed a stimulating thought that they have inbred in us those fundamental, abiding qualities upon which we are unconsciously still founding our family life.

Someone has said, "How poor, indeed, this world would be without its graves—without the memory of the honorable dead—only the Voiceless speak forever."

How poor, indeed, would Germanic Europe be without the graves of those who called themselves Lenz—who lived usefully for their "Fatherland," and, lie at rest within the sacred soil! How poor too would be the United States of America had not Friedrich Konrad Lenz and his faithful wife, Elizabethe Henriette Regel Lenz migrated to the little village of Stone Arabia in the State of New York! By facing and overcoming problems wholly unrelated to their former experiences, they enriched the life of their adopted country and left as a legacy, eight sons and daughters to carry on those inherent family ideals in the march of Life onward and upward.



## CHAPTER I

### THE NAME LENZ

Lenz is one of the oldest and most familiar names in Germany and is undoubtedly to be found wherever the German language is spoken in Europe.

The earliest historical record of the name Lenz that came to my attention was in the year 1040 A. D. relating to the Counts von Lenz of Lenzburg, Switzerland. During the intervening period of almost 1000 years to the present moment, the name has been one to be mentioned with respect and admiration.

The name Lenz means "Spring," "Bloom" (of life.) With that delightful season of the year we associate sunshine, warmth, cheer—the blossoming of gay flowers and the full throated songs of happy nesting birds. It is the very antithesis of darkness, gloom, dullness and sadness.

To primitive peoples a name had great significance. It was a distinguishing part of himself and linked him with a definite something. Individuals or clans were often named for certain outstanding characteristics or for their occupations, possessions or lack of them. Even nicknames were of great importance in showing traits of character or the rating of a person in a community, and, a nickname, carried along to another locality, frequently preserved that person's kinship and alliance with those of the same blood when other traces had long been missing or forgotten.

I like to think that the earliest progenitors of the Lenz Clan earned distinction among neighboring tribes or families for their unfailing cheerfulness and agreeableness—for creating by their very presence a comfortable, warm, pleasing atmosphere—"like a breath of Spring" and, therefore, that particular clan, or "familia" came to be designated as "Lenz"—"Spring."

Many superstitions wove themselves about this very importance attached to names, and, frequently the ancients very cautiously adopted the name of some person or family whom they greatly admired or respected, in the hope that the coveted characteristics, aptitudes, or material prosperity might, by some magic, be transferred to them.

This may, in part, account for a limited portion of the many thousands who bear the name of Lenz throughout Germanic Europe and other parts of the world, but, my somewhat extensive research and investigation through communication with various sources of information in Germany, Switzerland and America, have led me to con-

clude, perhaps mistakenly, that the registered Lenz families of Europe were originally of the same stock centuries ago. In the struggle for self preservation of individuals and clans, they were naturally driven hither and yon by wars, famines and similar circumstances. Likewise, by voluntary migrations and by intermarriage, the blood and name were carried throughout the German Empire and eventually to many parts of the world.

It must have been a vigorous stock that held a distinct place of influence and power by outstanding qualities of mind and body. Europe and America are still numbering conspicuously in very many communities, men and women of the Lenz name or strain who are contributing manifestly to the practical and cultural things of life by way of the professions, arts, sciences, trades, literature, religion and the like.

Marrying into different families in other localities did not seem to weaken the personalities or energies, for, we note many places in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Latvia that bear the name of Lenz in some form thus indicating the distinctive place of the various families in the earlier affairs of Germanic Europe.

By way of illustration, a few names follow located mostly along the Rhine River section from which region our American branch of the family traces its origin.

Germany:

Lenzenfeld( Lenzfield)

Lenzkirche (Lenzchurch)

Lentze

Lenzenbrunn (Lenzspring)

Lenzheide (Lenz forest)

Lenzenhof (Lenz Manor)

Lenzen (On Elbe River)

Linz am Rhein

Coblenz

Linz (In Austria)

In Switzerland:

Lenzburg (Lenz castle), also spelled Lenciburg and Lancebure—the ancient Roman form.

Lenzbadt (Lenz bath.)

Wherever the name appears as Lintz, Lentz, Lenci, Lance, Linc, it is provincial, for, the original and correct spelling is Lenz. The Z has a "ts" accent in German pronunciation which has led to the errors in writing the name.

Nicknames seem to have been quite as common and popular among the ancients as they are today. While my grandfather lived in Werdorf, Germany, he was affectionately known by the nickname "Der kleine Linz" (Little Linz.) It is interesting to note that this same



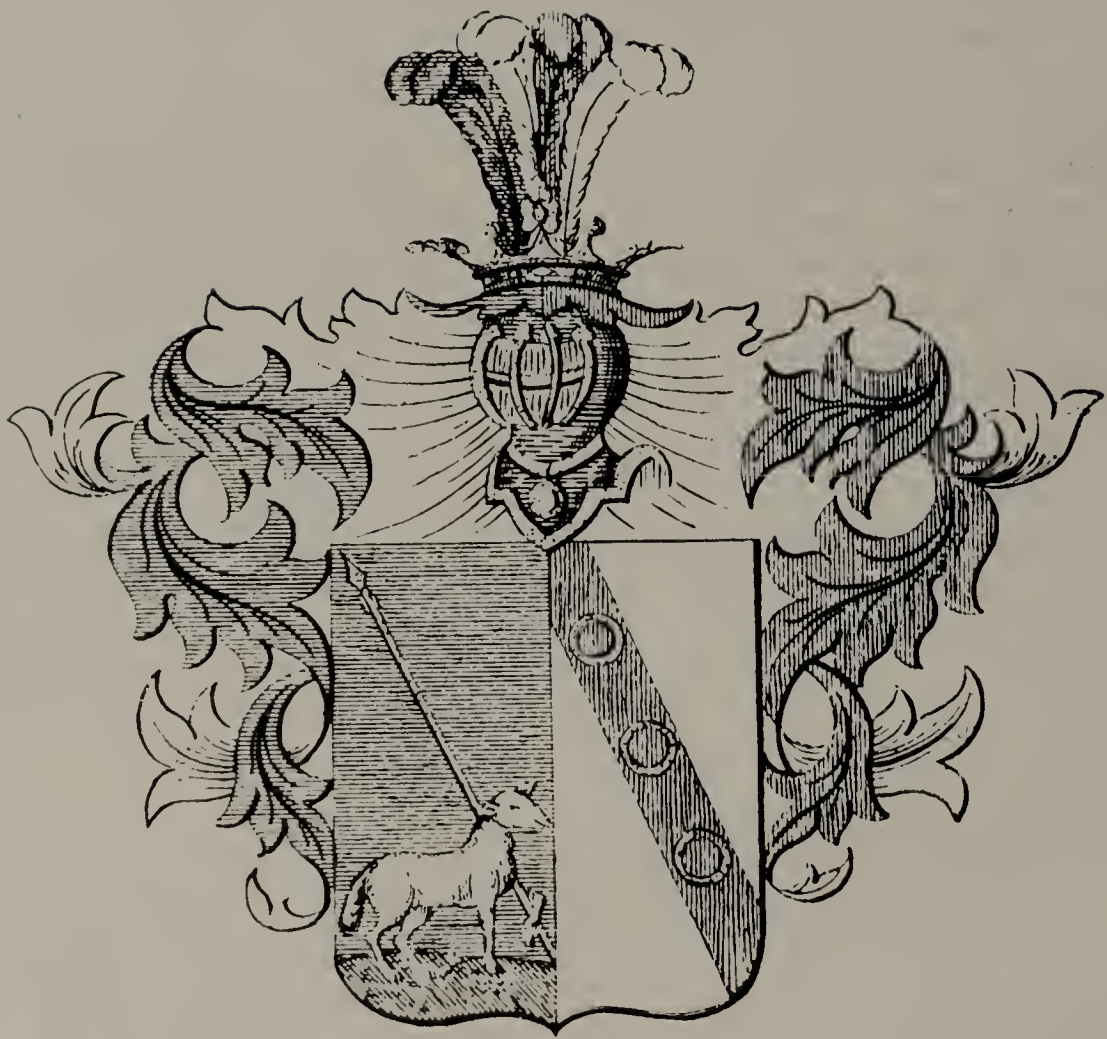
form of spelling appears in Switzerland and Austria as well as in Germany.

"Von" appearing before the family name indicates that the family is of the nobility or gentry.

There are several families in Europe bearing the Lenz name of sufficient importance to have been granted the distinction of Coats of Arms. It would have been intensely interesting to have been able to trace each of these families thus registered to the remotest ancestors in order to establish the various relationships through the centuries. However, such an undertaking would have required endless research, and, unlimited funds with which to contact sources of information, so that, for lack of absolute proof of origins, whatever conclusions I have arrived at have come about through certain historical statements; through minute comparison of the several Coats-of-Arms with explanations of the meanings of the emblems in books of Heraldry; through striking similarity of tastes and inclinations toward similar occupations and professions which I have noted over a period of many years in newspaper items and obituaries of those who bore the name of Lenz.

It is extremely difficult to separate the threads that distinguish the traditional from the authentic, yet, I feel convinced in my own mind that, had it been possible to trace the lineage of these registered Lenz families of Europe to exact origins, and to follow their migrations out of Europe, one would, without question, have discovered that each is but a branch of one and the same "Family Tree"—how ancient its roots no one can definitely say.

Naturally, in its various ramifications, a family moves so far from the common source that those of the same name readily disclaim all relationship, yet, here and there a bit of history or heraldry, a church record, or perhaps a visit to a silent old graveyard will frequently yield the very facts that establish beyond doubt the kinship of those of the same name, thereby proving how dependable and valuable are the findings of the genealogist.



**von Lenz .**

COAT OF ARMS

## LENZ

### COATS OF ARMS

For the entertainment and enlightenment of those who care to follow with me the origin and distribution of the Lenz Clan solely through Coats of Arms, tradition and conjecture, this portion of the chapter is here inserted. To me it has been an extremely fascinating part of the work of this genealogical record.

Elsewhere has been stated that the first historical record of the name Lenz that I was able to discover in American Libraries, or in European correspondence was that of the Counts von Lenz of Lenzburg, Province of Arrgau, North Switzerland. It has been the capitol city of the province since 1415 A. D. and took its name earlier than the year 1040 A. D. from the old feudal castle owned by the Counts von Lenz. (The meaning of burg is Castle or stronghold.) It was also called Lenciburg, Lanceburc and Lenceburg.

The Counts von Lenz, for some unstated reason, disappear from history around 1100 A. D. to reappear again in 1173 A. D. when Emperor Friederich I ("Barbarossa, the Red beard" as he was called)—came over from Schwaaben, the Bavarian province in South Germany, to Lenzburg to settle in person the vast and important estate. One part he gave to Count Albrect III of Habsburg, which family later became the ruling house of Austria, and, the other portion, on which was located the ancient castle, went to his own son Otto. Through various exchanges it passed from century to century, to one noble then to another, even having once been converted into a select private school. In 1890, Mr. A. E. Jessup of Philadelphia, Pa. purchased the entire estate and Castle and restored it to its ancient 10th century style introducing, in disguise, many modern conveniences. In 1910, he reluctantly sold the estate to Mr. James W. Ellsworth, of Ohio and New York City whose son, Lincoln Ellsworth, was associated with Amundsen in two Arctic explorations, and, who recently was rescued from a distressingly perilous experience in an airplane flight to the Antarctic.

Lincoln Ellsworth and his bride spent their honeymoon at the old Swiss Lenz Castle in September, 1933. Priceless medieval tapestries, some 75 ancient clocks, rare old books and treasures, even a deep moat, drawbridge and a huge falling gate make perfect the restoration of this ancient feudal castle which is one of the finest in Switzerland as it was in the days of old. A picture of above castle appears in December (1937) *Cosmopolitan*.





FREDERICK KONRAD  
• LENZ •

INSIGNIA OF STONE ARABIA BRANCH OF LENZ CLAN



Since the name of Lenz is as prevalent in Switzerland as it is in Germany, it seems but a logical conclusion that the descendants of these Counts or their kinsmen have spread all over Germanic Switzerland. In many of the Swiss provinces we find villages, baths, winter resorts and the like named for this distinguished family as, for instance, Lenzheide, Lenzenbadt, Linz. Switzerland is such a diminutive state, approximately 120 miles in width by 240 miles in length, so that it seems reasonably assured that the Swiss Lenz clan are of the same origin.

Whence came these Germanic inhabitants of Switzerland?

History relates that Caesar came over from Italy in the last Century before Christ and conquered, to the point of annihilation, the Helvetian tribes who were the original settlers of the land. Immediately after the conquest, the French swept up from the south west in droves to colonize while from over the Rhine at the immediate north came hordes of Germans who were foremost in repopulating the war stricken country. Not, however, without centuries of bloodshed was the phenomenal accord reached which now prevails among the peoples of Switzerland. Since the Rhine river belongs both to Switzerland and to Germany, and, for the most part forms the boundary between the two countries, it is not difficult to visualize how easily the feet of the Germans could step across into undeveloped territory, and, there become comfortably and profitably established even to bringing the language and customs of Germany to replace the Helvetic mode of living. The very fact that more than two-thirds of the Swiss people are of German extraction at present indicates the sturdiness of the race that has survived for nearly 2000 years.

Since the Bavarian Emperor Friedrich I felt a personal interest and responsibility in the Swiss estates of the Counts von Lenz, it would be logical to infer that either they, or their antecedents or descendants, were Bavarian subjects and of sufficient importance to have commanded the king's attention. Let us, therefore, leave the interesting Swiss Castle, Lenzburg, and journey over to the Bavarian Province of Schwaaben where the name of Lenz is still an important one as it has been for many centuries. Whether the present generations trace their ancestry to the Counts von Lenz, owners of the Swiss Castle, is not for me to say, yet it offers a theme for speculation.

In the province of Schwaaben, Bavaria in the year 1658, a Coat of Arms was granted to Johann von Lenz of Lenzenfeld, a village named for his vast estate. The design of the arms is undoubtedly that of a land owner of distinction, for, within the shield is a farmer with a golden sickle in one hand and a golden sheaf of wheat in the other. Likewise a ram of silver with golden horns appears and the fleur-de-lis, sometimes used to designate the sixth son of the family.

In 1782 Franz Conrad von Lenz, Burgomaster or Mayor of Neb-

erlingen, received from Emperor Joseph II of Austria a Baronetey. The Coat of Arms indicates that he was related to the Lenz family of Lenzenfeld, Bavaria.

Baron Johann Anton von Lenz died at Neberlingen in 1840. He was probably the grandson of the above.

Johann Baptiste Lentz, a Bavarian Councillor and Secretary of the electorate, was granted a title of nobility by Max Joseph III of Bavaria in the year 1753. His Coat of Arms is quartered with that of the Prussian Rhine Province family and also with that of the Lenz clan of Saxony, showing that these families were related.

Johann von Lenz, residence not stated, held from 1413-1414 some important office (Land comthure) of the Commandery which was a Teutonic Order of some sort.

The Prussian list of immigrants who passed through Potsdam and Berlin en route to Marienwerder, West Prussia mentions Joseph Lenz, shoemaker in the year 1780.

We move westward to the Rhine river and discover how very close to the Swiss border and the Castle Lenzburg is the Schwarz Wald, the famous Black Forest of the Province of Baden, Germany. Here too, and, elsewhere in Baden we find villages and public places named for the Lenz family indicating that in this region they were likewise strongly entrenched from ancient times. From this vantage point, they could easily gain access to Swiss territory or to Bavaria.

In the autumn of 1935, I had the opportunity to meet a gentleman named Frank Lenz, an International Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., who spoke in our city. In conversation with him, I learned that he is the son of Bernard Lenz who brought the family to Berkeley, California in 1880 from a small village in the Swartz Wald, Germany. Frank Lenz has travelled extensively, having recently returned from several years of residence in Japan where he had established Y. M. C. A. projects. He had also visited the Rhine valley and the Swartz Wald and spoke of the number of Lenz families still rooted to their native soil. In appearance and in mannerisms, Mr. Lenz reminded me of members of our own Stone Arabia Clan, and he told me of an interesting, amusing experience he had met with while in Virginia. Although he knew no one in that city, having arrived just to address a Y. M. C. A. Convention, wherever he went that day, on the street or in public, people addressed him intimately as "Frank." Later he humorously mentioned this friendliness of the people and was told that he so closely resembled a local banker as to be actually mistaken for him by the latter's own friends. The Lenz gentlemen were, however, not aware of any kinship. Relatives of this particular Lenz clan migrated likewise to Pennsylvania as members of the "Pennsylvania Deutch" settlement, and others are now in Ohio, the middle west, and California. It is not too improbable to suppose that this branch of the family came from one



of great grandfather Lenz's six brothers which may explain the family resemblances.

The Coat of Arms of the Baden Clan is "quartered" with that of Bavaria. By quartering is meant that a portion of two or more Coats of Arms are embodied in the same shield, a part being the original family emblem, the other part the insignia adopted by the newer family. This is done to indicate kinship with each other. Often these quarters are requartered so as to embody all the important family relationships.

We pass through the small Bavarian province of the Palatinate from whence migrated the harrassed natives to found Stone Arabia and Palatine, N. Y., and enter the Prussian Rhine Provinces which are of particular importance to us, for, in Nassau is located Werdorf, the ancestral home of the clan to which Friedrich Konrad Lenz, our immediate progenitor, belonged. Within these several Rhenish-Prussian Provinces, on both sides of the river, we again find villages named for the Lenz family (such as Coblenz, Lenzkirche) the custom of using this name in some form extending so far as the Elbe and Danube river regions.

In the year 1658 Johann Casper Lenz and his two brothers, Peter and Friedrich, were raised to the nobility at Frankfort am Main by Emperor Leopold I. Two other brothers, Jacob and Heinrich, were Quartermasters of the Holy Roman Empire.

Johann Casper von Lenz was made Margrave or Count of the Marches.

(Note—A Margrave was formerly the Lord or Governor of a German mark, march or border—an hereditary title of certain princes of the Holy Roman Empire and later a nobleman corresponding to the English Marquis.)

He was also Councillor of Bradenburg, Councillor of Domestic Relations, Consultant and Syndic for Regensburg.

(Note—a Syndic is a civil magistrate or officer representing a government or a community. Also used as one chosen to transact business for others.)

He received from the same Emperor Leopold I a patent of nobility at Regensburg on May 10, 1664.

On December 22, 1738 another Johann von Lenz was raised to the hereditary rank of nobility (Peer or Knight) by Emperor Karl XI of Austria. He lived in Rhennish Prussia and was Land Commissioner.

He was the uncle of Franz Conrad Lenz, Mayor of Neberlingnen, and was possibly the grandson of the distinguished Count Johann Casper von Lenz. The Coat of Arms of Johann von Lenz is very beautiful—so gracefully and artistically done, and, I like to think of it as the insignia of one of our immediate kin.

Within a shield a silver lamb is silhouetted against a blue background to represent the sky as he stands gracefully upon a green

turf. With foot upraised, he supports an ancient spear as gracefully as a soldier. Across the right half of the shield is placed a red ribbon ornamented with three golden rings. The background is silver. The conventional mantling around the shield crosses two leaves to form a fleur-de-lis thus displaying both the lamb and the lily as in the Bavarian Lenz Coat of Arms. Over the shield the crest is formed of an ancient steel helmet crowned with four tall ostrich plumes in red, blue and silver. The explanation seems to be that the family were both of the nobility and also claimed men of military distinction. (Design on page 4.)

Both the Baden and Bavarian Coats of Arms are quartered with this insignia so that we know that these families were all related in some way.

The numerous castle ruins scattered throughout the Rhine Valley give proof that there were many estates owned by the nobility and the feudal lords who took particular pride in displaying Coats of Arms wherever possible. Land owners of lesser distinction copied the style of the period. Sometimes those subject to the gentry were permitted to use Coats of Arms of the master as marks of identification.

Journeying eastward from the Rhine provinces, we pass the village of Lenzen on the Elbe river, and, following the river southward, we stop for a moment at Stendal in Saxony where on March 8, 1686 was born one Samuel Lenz whose Coat of Arms appears upon an imposing portrait of himself.

At Windsheim there is mentioned the Coat of Arms of George von Lenz, granted in 1620. He apparently belonged to a very distinctive literary Bachelor's Club, although the coat-of-arms may have other interpretations.

Along the Baltic Sea provinces, at Wenden, lived Peter von Lenz, an armour maker and blacksmith who must have rendered excellent service to his king for he was granted a Coat of Arms in 1590 as well as a large estate named Lenzen hof (Lenz court.) From him this family is said to have spread out into three distinct branches, one thriving in Livland (Latvia) first established at Riga, Capitol city of Latvia, the other branches at Dorpat and Reval.

Jacob Lenz, also of Baltic Sea province of Pomerania, born at Cöslin 1685 went to Latvia and died there in 1751.

Christian David von Lenz, also of Cöslin, was made General Superintendent of Latvia in 1720.

State Councillor, Emil von Lenz at Riga, was a man of great wealth for in 1844 he purchased an estate for 574000 Rubles.

A. W. von Lenz 1846, councillor.

J. R. von Lenz 1864.

Eleanore and Julia von Lenz, instructors and writers.

Court Secretary and Knight August William von Lenz (1779-1858). He purchased an estate valued at 175,000 Rubles.



This entire group of Latvian descendants of Peter von Lenz is distinguished for scholastic and literary attainments. The titles and land grants came through the Russian government for, until the World War, Latvia was subject to Russia. Latvia lies between Estonia and Lithuania, and came into prominence as the center of much fighting during the World War.

The Lenz Clans of East Prussia and Latvia have the same Coat of Arms so that they are of the same extraction.

Down in Austria too is an estate at Innsbrook once owned by Nicholas von Lenz in 1664. The fact that his Coat of Arms is many times quartered indicates his kinship with other branches of the family. Linz, the Capitol of Austria and one of the largest cities, is a German colloquial name for Lenz which lends weight to the idea that the Austrian Lenz families came originally out of Germany. However, I did not extend my research to Austria.

Having traced the known, the possible, and the plausible routes by which the Lenz Clans spread over Germanic Europe, I return you once more to the Rhineland region where I believe the family had its beginnings since the fertile Rhine Valley was first sought as very desirable for homes and for contacts with the world outside. That the Lenz Clan took advantage of opportunities for migration is evidenced by the far reaching prevalence of the name.

Since the analysis of the various Coats of Arms definitely establishes the close relationships between the ancient registered Lenz families throughout the length and breadth of Germany, to me it is self-evident that the Werdorf branch, to which we belong, would scarcely have been an isolated group but must surely have originated from the same stock. The prevalence of the name Johann, Konrad and Wilhelm in my grandfather's family leads me to believe that he was close kin of the Rhenish Prussian Clan just across the river where those names had been handed from generation to generation for centuries. Johann Heinrich Lenz was the first of our ancestors to be mentioned in the Werdorf records which fail to state whether he was born there or elsewhere.

That the Werdorf branch of the Clan had a background of wealth and importance is a tradition, or rather a fact, handed down from my Grandfather Lenz who was a man of few words nor was he given to idle boasting and dreaming. The historical facts point quite clearly to an environment of education and culture as well as a social standing exceeding that of peasant or serf. The leaning of so many of our present sons and daughters of the Lenz stock both in America and Europe toward scholastic and cultural attainments seems to strengthen the simple statement of my grandfather—that our inheritance from the past has been of the finest type.

Since my task is chiefly to preserve an unbroken record of the

lineal descendants of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and his wife Elizabethe Regel Lenz after their migration from the historic Rhine region to establish an American home at Stone Arabia, N. Y., I have had the ensuing design made which will readily link to the common source all of our kin who care to have this identical symbol in their possession. Design will be found on page 6.

It was designed and executed in pen and ink by Alan Jerome Hoffmann of New York City, husband of my eldest daughter Marion.

### THE MEANING OF THE DESIGN

Within the shield is represented the birth date and place of birth of my grandfather, Friedrich Konrad Lenz, namely, Werdorf, December 24, 1812. He crossed the sea in a sailing vessel and arrived in America in 1854 which marks the birth date of the Stone Arabia branch of the Lenz family. The birds are symbolic of "Spring" which is the meaning of the name Lenz.

In scarcely five generations the Stone Arabia clan has spread over an area of thousands of miles, and, such ever increasing separations are destroying knowledge of kinship. Would it not be well to have some symbol of identification so that not a single link shall be missing from the Lenz genealogical chain?

### REGEL COAT-OF-ARMS

Side by side with the name Lenz is frequently found the name Regel which is likewise one of the oldest and most widely known in Germanic Europe.

The name Regel signifies principle, discipline, order. We therefore, deduce that the Regel Clan, wherever found, led orderly, well disciplined, law abiding lives according to high and definite standards. Such was the mode of conduct of all the Regel clan who migrated to America many of whose descendants are still living and carrying on the splendid ideals of their forebears.

There are three registered branches of the Regel Clan bearing Coats of Arms, the one dating to the 14th century.

At Augsburg, Bavaria is a Coat of Arms granted in 1363.

At Donaüworth, near Danube in Bavaria, South Germany, granted in 1521.

At Götha in Thuringia some 75 miles distant from Werdorf, granted in 1852.

These three branches are of the same family since the design is identical except as it is laid out a trifle differently in each case.

There may be many more that I did not discover.

However, my research into the Regel family has concerned only the immediate progenitors of my grandmother, Elizabethe Henriette Regel Lenz, so that I did not attempt to trace or analyze the above mentioned insignia.



## CHAPTER II

### GERMANY AND THE GERMANS

No individual should be wholly estimated or judged from knowledge of his present environment and circumstances only. One should unquestionably know something of his background—of the family from which he sprang; of the characteristics of the race to which the family belongs; of the rating of that race in world affairs throughout the ages.

Before we proceed with the genealogical story, it is my purpose to first place Grandfather and Grandmother Lenz in their proper setting both in Europe and in America—to show their heritage from ages past—lest we who read pass judgment wholly from the American standards of living and Twentieth Century ways of thinking.

The Germans, from which race our "Familia" sprang were already a very widely known and powerful people as early as 113 years before Christ when history reveals these warlike tribes as again and again defeating in battle the very powerful Romans and lesser tribes.

They were first called "Germani" by the Romans, which means "The Shouters," since they habitually accompanied their attacks with shouts and noise. These tribes were spread along the fertile valleys of the Rhine river and over a wide area of Central Europe when Caesar in 55 B. C. again sought, without success, to conquer them. For more than 1800 years the record is one of constant warfare, Italy, France, Scandinavia, and others seeking to wrest from the German tribes the coveted rich territory, particularly the Rhine river and its adjoining lands. The Germans in turn, invaded neighboring territory, even wresting from Italy provinces and principalities which added to Teutonic prestige as well as to territory.

Caesar describes his habitual enemies as of high stature, fine physique, fair complexion, light, often yellow, hair, very blue eyes, of great strength, and cherishing an indomitable love of liberty. So thoroughly did they love personal freedom that they shunned towns and cities preferring the wide open spaces or secluded smaller settlements.

Each tribe had a King yet collectively the people had a voice in the government. The religion was based upon myths and they believed devoutly in elves, nixies, dwarfs and giants which renders German folklore so delightfully entertaining and realistic. Each tribe

had a special God, often their own King or Chief but there was also a Priestly Order for all the tribes combined. Each master of a household performed his religious services for the family. They believed devoutly in a future life and sought in every way to distinguish themselves in this life to be worthy of the future existence.

The Germans are of Aryan descent. This Indo-European and Indo-Germanic "Familia" has for thousands of years ruled Europe, Asia, Australia, America, and even portions of Africa. From the Aryans came the great literatures, arts, sciences, religious truths of the world "in quality and quantity unsurpassed by those of any other races of the world."

From this ancient and proud extraction came also the Prussians who were mentioned historically as early as 320 B. C., yet, little was known of them until the thirteenth century A. D. when they are recorded as a Germanic tribe already risen to distinction. The Prussians have always been and still are, a distinct type of German. They have qualities resembling those of the peoples of other parts of Germany, yet, the qualities seem always to exceed and often to excel. The patient, persistent, persevering spirit, so characteristic of the German everywhere, is found to even a greater degree in the Prussian as is that fine restraint upon outward demonstration of emotion which has brought upon them the criticism that they are "a cold, unfeeling, reserved, unfathomable race." Every true German has a great love for the "Fatherland," but the Prussian's love transcends all other so that he has always shown an incomparable genius in warfare, military affairs and strategies.

This rich territory, so long the home of the Prussians, stretches along the Baltic Sea from Holland and Belgium on the west to Poland on the east touching a portion of Czecho-Slovakia on the southeast. It crowds over 38 million people—more than one-half of Germany's entire population—into an area less than that of our own State of Arizona. It is approximately 700 miles by 400 in area. The Rhine river, which flows the entire length of western Prussia, has for centuries been the most famous river, historically and commercially, of all Europe. The safeguarding of this much coveted gift of Nature has forced Prussia to become the stage upon which much of the drama of the rise of Germany in European and World affairs has been enacted. It has been a tragic drama—a drama of constant warfare with neighboring Nations, or internal wars with other German states because of jealousy or fear over the growing prestige of Prussia. How sadly familiar to many of our ancestors would have been that twentieth century tragedy which was enacted upon that same Rhine Valley Stage!

When Grandfather and Grandmother Lenz migrated from Prussia in 1854, it was by far the most powerful and influential Kingdom of the German Empire. King Friedrich Wilhelm IV had occupied the throne since the year 1840, and although he was generally con-



ceded to be a very kind and good King, his reign was characterized by one long struggle of the people against their King for a Constitutional form of Government which was partially granted in 1850. In that same year, there was a drastic plot at Berlin to overthrow the government. Prussia engaged in wars with Denmark, Austria, France, and minor internal wars. Small wonder that King Friedrich Wilhelm IV became insane and his brother was called to rule as regent during the 11 years before the King's death, which occurred in 1861. As Wilhelm I, the brother was then crowned King.

Under the new King wars of defense and aggression continued and by 1871 so thoroughly had Prussia gained the long desired recognition and respect of all Germany that the various Kingdoms readily and even proudly consented to be joined in the "United Kingdom of Germany," with the King of Prussia, Wilhelm I, chosen as Emperor (Kaiser) who, at his death in 1888, was succeeded by his son Wilhelm II—the Kaiser of World War fame. He lives in exile in Holland.

When we realize that the present Republic of Germany is less in area than our own State of Texas with the area of the State of Kansas subtracted, we visualize by such comparison more clearly how diminutive after all is this Nation that has, for centuries, made its influence felt throughout the entire world. More than 61 million people dwell within this limited area. It is indeed the "Irony of Fate" that a people so averse to giving up the freedom of open spaces should now be crowded into congested rural areas and into vast cities numbering thousands—even millions—of human souls.

## WERDORF

The Village of Werdorf is located in the Province of Nassau between the 50th and 51st degrees N. Latitude and the 8th and 9th degrees Longitude. Frankfort am Main is about 38 miles south and Köln am Rhein (Cologne) is approximately 75 miles northeast. It lies on the little River Dill—a small stream some 50 feet wide—whose waters reach the Rhine a few miles to the west. The Hartz Mountains are in this region from which come the canaries so famous for their clear voices and beauty of color. Werdorf is in the County of Wetzlar. This detailed description of its location is here given since it does not always receive mention on the maps of Germany in spite of the fact that Werdorf has an ancient historic background of which Germany should be justly proud. Yet, what Rhine Valley village has not such a notable setting?

Werdorf today is a really beautiful spot of German country and deserves to be loved for its own sake as well as for its contribution to the life of the German Nation. It is a village of some 1500 inhabitants nestled among wooded hills with the shining Dill river winding through like a silver ribbon. Many beautiful trees border the clean, well kept streets. In the center of the village a church

spire rises and the homes seem to cluster lovingly about the small building as if with a feeling of safety in the shadow of its sacred old walls. In the dooryard of the church, enclosed by an artistic wall and gateway, is a War Memorial to the Sons of Werdorf who gave their lives in the World War. The village has an atmosphere of established repose as though peace and plenty had from time immemorial been the happy portion of this little hamlet. History tells a story quite the contrary.

Werdorf was mentioned for the first time in historical documents during the time of Charlemagne (768-874 A. D.) The title "Dorf" points out the fact that the founding took place during the time of the Franks.

The Judicial powers were granted to Werdorf in the person of a Judge who called a jury from a number of the villages. A tax of one tenth of all the revenues of the village had to be paid originally to the Bishopric in Speier, later to the Cloister in Fulda. In 1159 the serfs—hired farmers—who were the property of the village squires were given to the Cloister Schiffenberg (near Giesen). Around 1200 they belonged exclusively to the Dynasty of the Squires of Greifenstein. In 1235 the squire Rudolph von Greifenstein permitted his vassal Ludwig von Wetzler to sell the estates in fee in Werdorf. By the year 1486 Werdorf had three nobility estates and 69 peasant homes. In 1518 Bernard III von Bramfels bought farms of the nobles Henzel and Heinrich von Werdorf. In 1540 the population of the whole domain of Greifenstein, to which Werdorf belonged, embraced the doctrine of Martin Luther. The Count, however, did not do so, but, after his death, his son in 1549 was converted to the doctrine as were most of the people of the village. In 1579 the serfdom of the whole village and the rest of the domain was lifted. Between the years 1581-1592 the Reformed Doctrine of Swingli and Calvin was introduced because the Count von Greifenstein wished to oblige his Reformed brother-in-law—the mighty neighbor Count von Nassau-Dillenburg. By this move he hoped to secure his continued friendship and assistance.

In 1602 the Parish of Werdorf was founded.

During the Thirty Years War, the valley of the Dill was sacked by troops under the command of the imperial Tilly, and, after he withdrew, some years later it was again pillaged by the Spaniards. Many of the inhabitants fled to the Castle of Greifenstein about 6 miles from Werdorf. It was a safe, impregnable castle. Among the fugitives, the Greifenstein church records mentions a direct ancestor, one Johannes Regel of Werdorf who looked for protection and shelter.

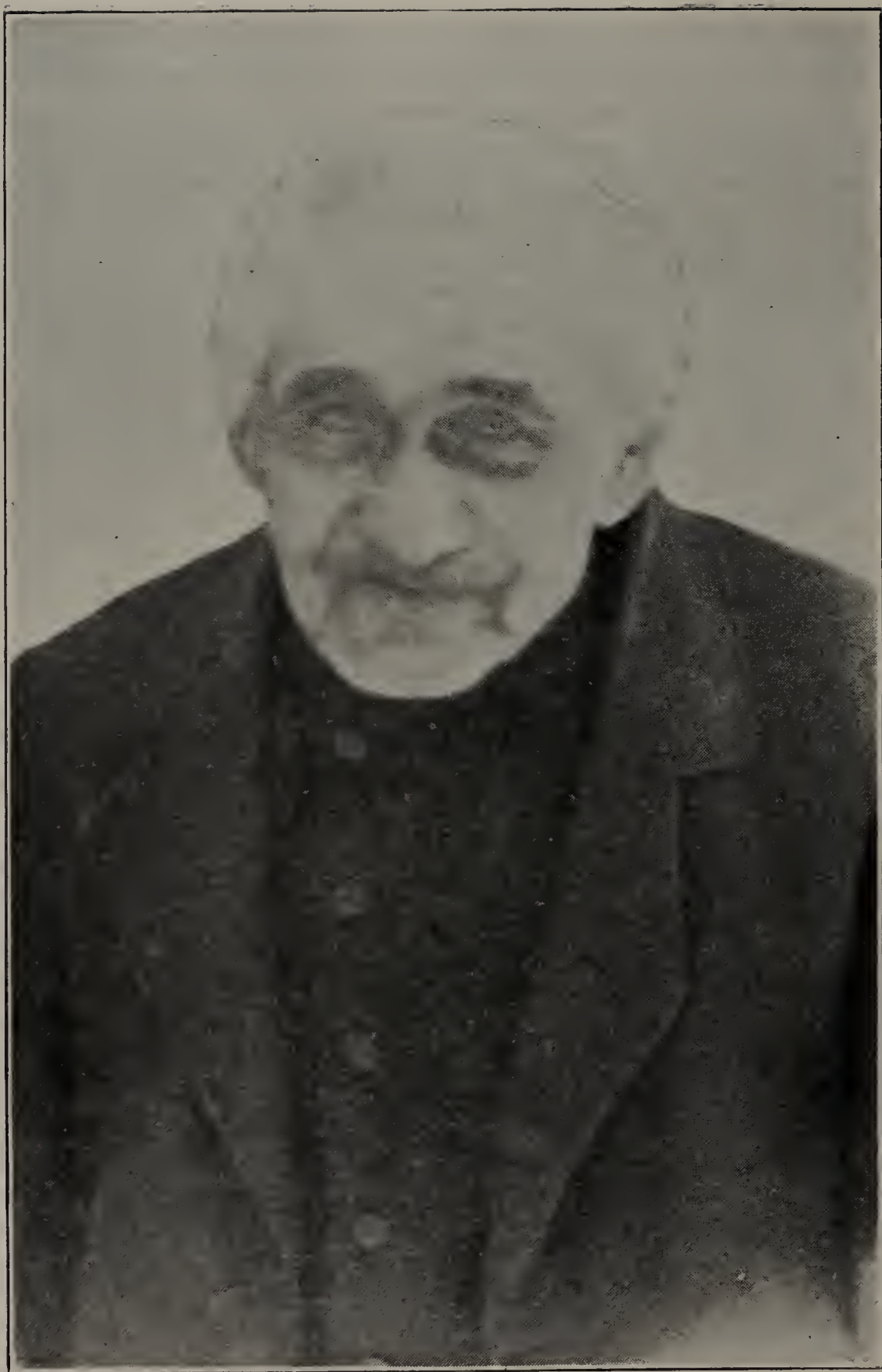
As late as 1750 there were no fir trees in the valley of the Dill—only leaf bearing trees. During the Thirty Years War wolves had become such a menace that big hunts for wolves were staged in the forests of Werdorf even as late as 1720.



When Count Wilhelm II von Sohns Greifenstein died in 1677, his wife, the former Ernestine Sophie von Hohenlohe-Schlinngsfürst, moved from Greifenstein Castle to Werdorf and built a Castle in the center of the village. Two unmarried daughters made provision in their wills that the Castle and estate henceforth should descend to the unmarried females of the House of Greifenstein. The remains of these maiden ladies are interred in the Chapel of Greifenstein. That there were other unmarried descendants seems evident for the line of Greifenstein soon became extinct and the whole estate passed to the possession of the Counts von Sohns-Bramfels. In this Earldom of Sohns-Bramfels, Werdorf was the third largest village and had 603 inhabitants in the year 1815. It had the right to conduct fairs and two Woolmarkets each year.

Of these 603 inhabitants one was my Grandfather, the other my Grandmother.





FRIEDRICH KONRAD LENZ  
*(Founder of the Lenz Family in America)*

## CHAPTER III

FRIEDRICH KONRAD LENZ (1812-1894)

### FIRST GENERATION

The point from which we begin our genealogical story is this historic little village of Werdorf while the year made memorable for the Lenz Clan is 1854 since it is from this date that we must reckon our origin as an American family.

How very lifeless and uninteresting would all these historical statements stand out in the record without the revealing life story of the founder of this American Branch who had the vision to lift cradles that had rocked to sweet slumber forebears for hundreds of years in a single village and set them to rocking in a strange land thousands of miles from the revered ancestral homeland.

Therefore, the year 1812 is likewise extremely significant, for, there was ushered into the world at Werdorf a baby boy who, forty-two years later, had the distinction of being the founder of this still flourishing American family.

This babe came on December 24, 1812 as a Christmas gift to Johann Konrad Lenz and his wife, Marie Katherine Find Lenz. On January 1, 1813 he was christened at the Protestant Church in Werdorf—Friedrich Konrad Lenz. Less than six months later, happiness and rejoicing were replaced by great sorrow at the death of the husband and father at the age of only twenty-seven leaving the widowed mother, barely twenty years of age, alone with her Christmas babe. Before 1812 is recorded the death of Philipp Heinrich Lenz, father of Johann, so that this babe was bereft, not alone, of the love and companionship of his young father, but also, of the close relationship of grandparent and grand child.

His childhood was normal and uneventful. In 1815 his young mother was married to Friedrich Regel and the lad grew up in the home together with his half-sisters and brothers. About 1833-1835 he was married to Elizabeth Henriette Regel, also a native of Werdorf, born during the night of February 14-15, 1813 to Friedrich Regel and Sophie Katherine Kern.

That this young couple would ever deviate from the established mode of living by forsaking Werdorf, where for centuries the Lenz forebears had spent their lives, was undoubtedly not even dreamed of on that happy wedding day, yet only 19 years later, in June of the year 1854, we find them, with their six children, embarking from their home shores bound for new adventures in a strange land.

The ancestral home they left behind was a very fine farm house



which gave way to a new building as recently as 1928. It is much to be regretted that the opportunity has been lost of securing a photograph of it before it was razed. The property was last in the possession of a family named Kunz. After the removal of my grandfather and grandmother Lenz to America, the house was for a time owned by Karl Regel, (father of Mrs. John Lenz of Fonda, N. Y.) who migrated to the United States June 10, 1869.

There were no railroads in Germany in 1854, so that, the long distance of some 275 miles from Werdorf to Bremen was made by wagon, grandfather having hired a conveyance and a man to drive them. My grandmother must have been a courageous, self-controlled, patient woman to have undertaken this journey with six children to care for, the youngest a babe in arms, yet without doubt it had its moments of high adventure especially for the older children.

When they arrived at the old seaport town of Bremen with its medieval houses, its narrow streets, its ancient cathedrals and Roman ruins dating back to 782 A. D., my grandmother did a truly feminine thing—she went shopping. She purchased a lovely porcelain coffee cup and saucer which she sent back to Werdorf with the driver of their wagon, as a parting gift to her father, Friedrich Regel. It goes without saying that he cherished this cup so long as he lived, and, at his death at the age of 90 years, it came in possession of his son Johannes Regel whose daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Regel Freitag of Werdorf, still uses it and preserves it as a sacred inheritance and very dear remembrance linking her family fondly with American relatives by the only memento they possess.

They left the seaport of Bremen in a sailing vessel, and, the forty-five days in crossing were spent amid the usual perils and hardships of sea going in those days of crude, undeveloped machinery. My father (Henry Karl Lenz), who was 9 years old at the time of sailing, used to relate many interesting and amusing stories of their experiences on shipboard. There were several severe storms when it seemed the vessel must be overpowered, but, somehow they reached land in safety. Father never lost the thrill or the memory of the adventurous voyage.

Just why my grandfather, at the age of 42, felt the urge to bring his family across the sea to begin life anew in a strange land has never been explained, and, must therefore always be left somewhat to conjecture. Certainly he demonstrated no adventuring spirit, no "Wanderlust" after their arrival in America. His long life of nearly 82 years was, by choice, extremely circumscribed, for, he scarcely moved out of the immediate radius of his adopted village. That gold and silver had so recently been discovered in Colorado and California, bringing with it the rapid development of the far west, would scarcely have been the magnet to draw one of his temperament unless he saw in this expansion greater opportunities for rearing his children. After careful study of the historical and political life

of Europe at that period, my own deductions are that he chose to stake everything on the uncertainties of America rather than to sacrifice his children and their future happiness upon the altars of wars and revolutions incessantly arising, new ones even then impending under the disturbed reign of Friedrich IV, King of Prussia, which have been briefly spoken of in a previous chapter. The oldest son, Charles, had reached the age of about 19 years when he would soon be called into military service.

In Werdorf grandfather was engaged in some type of trucking as well as owning a small farm on the outskirts of the village which business required him to go frequently to larger villages and cities. Through these contacts outside his native town, he must have daily come to full well feel the pulse of the times, and, this strengthens my theory that he quietly, as he did all things, but definitely, came to the decision to quit Germany, with its wars and upheavals, forever. Surely this stimulus and motive is more in keeping with his entire nature, for he was a calm, placid soul, content with simplest desires and entirely unambitious for worldly possessions or display, so that, some such tremendously impelling force must have supplied the courage to face the responsibility of uprooting his family, so deeply entrenched in the life and traditions of Germany.

When the sailing vessel landed in New York harbor, what new thrills and trials awaited these immigrants? As their feet first touched American soil, what were the first impressions of grandfather and grandmother who were sponsoring this adventure? Were there disappointments, fears, regrets, or anticipation, gratitude and confidence? We shall never know.

It is safe to assume that there was an abundance of awe and wonder, yet New York City of 85 years ago was not the city we view today. To those who know it only as a great Cosmopolitan Metropolis, it may seem almost incredible that, less than twenty-five years ago, travellers spoke gratefully of the shade afforded by the beautiful trees on Broadway. One has only to visualize the sky line of ten years ago to appreciate vividly the contrast between the yesterday of 85 years ago, when these immigrant forebears landed, and the Manhattan of today.

Had these travellers started on a sight seeing venture up Wall Street, they would have observed here and there a small two story house not half as large as the nice old farmhouse they had left behind in Werdorf. Except for disreputable looking "Squatter shanties," there were no houses between 48th Street and Central Park. Along the Park on Fifth Avenue from 59th to 65th Streets, small houses were set on hillsides with barns at the rear, pig sties and pasture land where cows grazed in rural content. To be chased by goats, cattle, or turkey gobblers was not an uncommon experience for children on their way home from school. Even as late as 1880 fences were indispensable to confine the geese, hens, dogs, and goats



that wandered in front door yards. Exclusive Park Avenue was then known only as "a barren waste of a district," it had no other name. Where now stand those giants of architectural skill on Broadway, Wall Street and the Avenues, there were modest two story buildings and the shop-keepers lived upstairs over their places of business.

Two wheeled gigs, tally-hos, stage coaches, often drawn by mules, were the means of conveyance up and down the principal streets, and, where rough cobble pavements had not been laid, dirty splashes would soil the clothes of those who walked the narrow, muddy streets. Even the horse car had not come into being. Although Croton Dam had shortly before been put in operation, pumps still adorned even important street corners where people had previously paid 2 cents a bucket for the privilege of drawing the water.

It may seem foolish to be reminded that even in the best hotels one would not find a telephone, a telegraph office, or a typewriter, for, none of these commonplace conveniences, that science has made possible for us today, had then been developed. More than thirty years later only seventeen telephones were listed in private homes which were so crudely constructed that the contacting was done by tapping the instrument with a lead pencil. With its more than eighty million miles of wire—enough to span the distance from the earth to the moon three hundred twenty-five times, what will be the story of progress that the Bell Telephone Company will relate to our descendants a half century hence as compared with this year of 1937?

Winter in the year 1854 had its attractions for the New York dwellers. Sleighs replaced the stage coaches for transportation, and, where now stand some of the imposing hotels and sky-scrappers, skating rinks—some very exclusive—were doing a thriving business. Here stylish ladies in crinolines, hoop-skirts and pantalettes cavorted with swanky men in skin-tight trousers, stocks, skirted overcoats, with capes, and the inevitable high beaver top hats. The first pair of all steel skates in 1850 cost the proud owner \$30. After the skating, many would rush off to P. T. Barnum's Show where Jenny Lind was the sensation of the hour.

New York City, with its population of only 696,000, was at that time spread out mostly below 14th Street. It was not until the advent of steam and electricity in the early nineties that the city began the tremendous expansion which seems almost unbelievable in so short a lapse of time.

New York City was naturally the center of advanced ideas and modern improvements, so that, when we carry the above picture of development of those earlier days out into other sections of the United States, it must always be with generous reservations in mind. In the east, small farm sections were slowly developing into villages, and, villages into fair sized cities, yet, it continued to be the day of the snuff box, the trundle bed, the singing school, and the husk-



ing bee. "The Far West" was Missouri which was reached by stage coach only. Beyond that point, mail was delivered by post riders. The Gold Rush, bringing with it the railroads, the telegraph and kindred advancement, speedily moved the frontier on to the Pacific coast. There was in operation a railroad from New York to Buffalo, but, not until some 25 years after grandfather's arrival could one travel by rail to Chicago.

The question of slavery was even as early as this at the height of agitation, and, it was in Missouri and the middle west section that the seeds of the Rebellion were being planted by the spectacular acts of John Brown with his luckless followers whose questionable zeal was fanning the subject of Emancipation to a white heat that spread with flying intensity all over the United States. It truly seems an "Irony of Fate" that, if my grandparents had emigrated to find release from the war ridden Rhine Valley of Germany, they should touch American soil just as the makings of a Civil War were in progress, already so far advanced that even the oratory of Henry Clay and Stephen Douglas, likewise the impressive editorials of Horace Greeley could not avert the catastrophe.

Ignorant of all this impending darkness, my grandfather brought his family by train from New York to Fonda, N. Y. This was, indeed, a courageous, venturesome thing to do, for, even native Americans still rode by the stage coaches, which held to their regular route, and they could not yet be induced to give trial to this comparatively new and much too "speedy" mode of travel. From our sophisticated 20th century viewpoint of speed in travel we may be highly amused at the apparent timidity of these travellers and fail, likewise, to recognize the degree of courage of these immigrants who had never seen a train. Yet we have only to estimate how very few of the millions of people today avail themselves of the obvious advantages of air travel, until greater safety is assured, and we shall have greater charity in our thinking of the apprehensions and prudent waitings of travellers of a century ago.

Accustomed in Germany to the ways and associations of village folk, it must, indeed, have brought a sense of intense relief as they alighted from the train at Fonda, and very shortly arrived at their destination—their adopted home in Stone Arabia, N. Y., a village composed almost entirely of German speaking people many of whom had relatives or acquaintances in Werdorf.

### STONE ARABIA

This historic village, one of the most strategic points in the Revolutionary War, was one of the first locations of the Palatine Germans who settled there in 1723, and one of the earliest permanent German settlements in America—the first white settlement in the middle Mohawk Valley. They came from the war stricken, desolated

little State called the Palatinate on the Rhine River directly east of the present much disputed Saar region. This province was a short distance south of Werdorf so that it is barely possible that some of our blood, if not of the Lenz-Regel names, were numbered among those brave pioneers who founded Stone Arabia, Palatine, and other portions of Montgomery county. Later many migrated to found colonies in Pennsylvania where they were known as "Pennsylvania Deutch," called by others "Dutch" which led to the erroneous conclusion that these founders came from Holland.

Grandfather's father, Johann Konrad Lenz, came of a large family and had several brothers who were sent to all parts of the world in military service. It is not too imaginative to feel that some of their wanderings sent them to America, or, if not, then surely some of their descendants must have found their way here, for, throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio and the Middle West the name of Lenz is a familiar one.

These pioneer settlers of the Mohawk Valley were "Squatters" who purchased their land of the Mohawk Indians, but, to insure them adequate protection, the British government granted them patents, the one at Stone Arabia being authorized on October 19, 1723 to 27 families including 127 persons.

Stone Arabia was then covered with huge rocks and stones which these ambitious, purposeful people, with much patience and perseverance, worked out of the soil from year to year and piled into serviceable fences to enclose their fast growing tillable acres.

I can personally vouch for the rocks as late as 1888, for my father took great pride in keeping his fields cleared of such obstructions so that each autumn we children were given the task of helping him to pile the season's crop of rocks that had come to the surface with the digging of the food crops. It proved to be an interesting game for us since many of the stones were well filled with extraordinarily beautiful deposits of quartz that shone like genuine diamonds. We used to force them carefully out of their coarse settings and use them in cheap little jewelry, or display them at school to other collectors of similar "diamonds."

Much more of interest might be told of this pleasant little village—how its two very old churches were founded; how the army fought and many gave their lives to preserve the village from the enemy; how many of those heroes lie buried in the sorely neglected graveyard behind these two century old churches—yet all of these facts are related in detail in many of the histories of the Mohawk Valley. Of greatest interest is the fact that these pioneers made this desert of rock to "blossom like the rose," and today it is still a very rich, productive farming section.

No one who bears the name of Lenz or Regel lives within its bound-



aries, but there are several of our kin who still cling to the soil of their native village.

Exactly why grandfather chose this particular section of the United States to re-establish a home is again a matter for speculation unless we rather safely conclude that friends or acquaintances from Werdorf or the neighboring towns had previously migrated to Stone Arabia and had written the news of their experiences to the home folks. At all events, this very spot was chosen, and, shortly after the arrival they purchased a 25 acre piece of land—mostly forest—which they turned by degrees into productive fields and the lumber was utilized for building a house and farm buildings. This property adjoined the Irving Vosburg farm.

Grandfather and grandmother were both substantial, industrious, self-reliant, frugal, sensible people who likewise taught their children the same independent, purposeful ways of living. It is therefore significant, as we trace the results of this heritage and training, that each son, with the cooperation of an equally thrifty wife, provided splendidly for his family while he lived, and, at his death left sufficient resources to care for them in comfort. The daughters, established as wives and mothers in homes of their own, showed similar thrift, resourcefulness and intelligent management.

Two children were added to the family circle at Stone Arabia, Elizabeth, born January 26, 1856 and Johannes, born April 21, 1858.

With all of the duties of so large a family, my grandmother and the older daughters found time to sew by hand gloves that they carried to and from Johnstown. Usually the trip was made on foot regardless of the weather conditions or the weight of the load. Grandmother's health became impaired, for rheumatism and arthritis developed in such severe form that she became very crippled. By tacit agreement, one of the married sons, with his family, resided at the home so that the wife might assist grandmother with the household duties. This arrangement was held to until the youngest son, John, was married in 1883 when he offered to care for the father and mother so long as they lived. For this kindness in assuming the full care and responsibility of the parents, it was understood that, at their death, he was to receive the entire estate.

Shortly after their marriage in 1883, John and his wife, with the parents, vacated the old homestead and moved to a portion of the large farm house owned by the widowed Mrs. Irving Vosburg whose very pretentious acres adjoined the humbler Lenz tract. For eight years they acted as caretakers of this farm and worked the land on the homestead property as well.

It was here that my grandmother died on April 21, 1887 at the age of 74. The funeral was held in the front parlors of the portion of the house occupied by the widowed Mrs. Vosburg—a woman of means and good taste. I still recall the feeling of wide-eyed wonder and interest as I sat on the stiff, black hair cloth sofa—mim-



portant as a mourner, yet extremely important to myself to be found in such awe inspiring, strange surroundings. I scarcely knew my grandmother, for, in her later years, she had been too great a sufferer to be disturbed by the visits of the small grandchildren. My memory of her is that of a crippled old lady who sat always in an arm chair or lay in her bed—the object of everyone's sympathy because of her frightful, though uncomplaining, suffering. I can still visualize her hands and feet which were so distorted from the rheumatism that they were doubled like fists. She had also suffered since girlhood from infrequent attacks of epilepsy which grew worse as she approached the close of her life.

Those who knew my grandmother speak of her as a very good woman with patient, calm temperament, very industrious, ambitious far beyond her physical capacity to endure, and heroic in her endurance of suffering. She managed her large household with quiet ability. The sons, who brought their wives to care for her, had no regrets, for she treated them kindly without criticism or complaint and was gratefully appreciative of their sacrifices made for her sake.

In appearance grandmother was not especially attractive, although she had already reached middle life when they arrived in America, so that, the younger generations thought of her only as "old." She was of medium height, taller than grandfather, somewhat angular of build with large irregular features. She had blue eyes, yellowish-blond hair, a skin somewhat colorless and parched that seemed tightly drawn over high cheek bones. This was undoubtedly due to her long intense suffering. That she had the stoicism of the pioneer woman shows in her strong, patient face. She was neat and orderly, precise but not exacting. The outside world had no attractions for her. Home and her family constituted her world that brought her entire satisfaction.

Grandfather was 68 years old when I was born so that my earliest recollections of him date from the time when he was past 70 years of age. He had spent his earlier years in America in the strenuous labors of the farm and had now arrived at the "odd job" stage of life where he quietly occupied himself with congenial tasks, smoked his pipe much in shaded corners or as he sat long by the fireside in winter. Pipe and man were inseparable. Summer or winter, each night he smoked a last pipe before retiring as he whittled a neat pile of kindling for the morning fire, and it would please him to be told that these "curlieues" were much too artistic to be burned. Until he was a very old man he rose early and lighted the fires, and the same match that lighted the kindling, lighted his morning pipe. He grew his own tobacco, cured it in the loft of the wood shed so that he was assured of the purity of each pipeful that he smoked.

One of his chief occupations was the making of willow baskets as he sat in some shaded corner of the large door yard. Moth-

er was accustomed to go frequently to assist him with the care of grandmother in her invalidism, and I would sit by the hour watching grandfather busy at his task who would chuckle in amusement at my childish eagerness and curiosity. He would sometimes surprise us by making us a small basket for our doll clothes which we would carry home so proudly. My sister, Martha, still preserves one that he made for her some 55 years ago.

Grandfather was a short, thin, small featured man to whom the nickname of "Der kleine Linz," as he was affectionately known in Werdorf, applied most appropriately. This name, "Little Linz" was never used after he came to Stone Arabia, but it indicates what a kindly, affable young man he must have been.

He had an abundance of snow-white straight hair that had once been a very light brown, almost blonde, small blue eyes, was entirely toothless, yet, his quiet laugh was none the less hearty and expressive, for his eyes showed their pleasure by little lines that gathered at the corners and seemed to illumine his whole countenance. There was nothing of the pathetic, forlorn old age manner about him but rather the benign look of a pleased, satisfied father whose kindly treatment at the hands of his children had prepared for his old age only happy memories, so that, he was perfectly content with his lot, assured that the family he had helped to rear was launched upon the course to high moral standards and material success. He seemed never to regret coming to America nor to long to return to Germany. The War of the Rebellion did not disturb the peace of the home, being aliens, the sons were not called into service. For many years after the departure from Germany, wars and turmoil prevailed over there, particularly in Prussia, so that they must all have felt gratitude for the wisdom that had sent them away from their native land.

Grandfather was very kindly in the home circle, not at all assertive, easy to please, not given to much conversation. If at times things displeased him, he showed his annoyance by absolute silence for several days until he had conquered his feelings and was once more restored to normal mood. At such infrequent times grandmother would understand perfectly nor would she seek to rouse him to speech. Quite as suddenly as he had gone into silence, he would return to his usual mild manner, without explanation or comment. To the offender, it must have seemed a very exasperating trait in grandfather, yet, "Silence is after all, the best peace-maker," and, there would never be the aftermath of regrets for him over things spoken in the heat of anger.

Outwardly grandfather never displayed his affections for anyone. He was shy, reticent, reserved, and somewhat aloof but not coldly so. One rather felt that his love, though unexpressed, was deep and sincere. He had taught his little grand-daughter, Anna, to sing the alphabet in German when she was scarcely more than a babe,



and he lost no occasion to show before guests how very cunningly she did this. He would quietly chuckle and his eyes would light with fond pride, yet he was never one to fondle her nor to give way to sentiment. He assumed that parents loved their children and children's children and were interested in their welfare, so that there was no need for words, reiterations, or outward demonstrations of a truth so inherent in him. This particular trait came, by inheritance, to each of his children, for because of that same outward reserve, the casual observer would scarcely fathom the wealth and intensity of the maternal and paternal affection hidden deep within the heart of each.

Grandfather contributed nothing of the spectacular or outstanding to life either in Germany or in America, yet, I cannot refrain from again commenting upon his courage and foresight in assuming the risks of emigration to America at the age of 42 when men were already counted "old" even in their own estimation.

His tastes were ever for the simple, humble things of life. He wore homespun, home tailored clothes made in the same style that he had worn in Werdorf nor were these garments habitually creased and pressed. His face was not always clean shaven nor was his hair regularly and trimly cut. His hands were work worn but capable. He aspired to no public office nor did he ever engage in civic activities, but he obeyed strictly and conscientiously all the laws of his adopted country. He was a thoroughly good, upright, honest, honorable man.

Many fine qualities and aspirations latent in both grandfather and grandmother, undeveloped because of lack of opportunities and deficient education, have emerged in fineness and abundance in subsequent generations, thus do parents stand revealed in their children and children's children.

Grandfather died at the Campbell Farm near Fonda, N. Y. where the son, John, had been acting as caretaker since 1891. His death occurred September 24, 1894 at the advanced age of 81 years and 9 months. He lies buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Sand Flats beside grandmother. His passing was due to the infirmities of old age and cerebral hemorrhage induced in great part by prolonged, suppressed grief over the sudden death, from pneumonia, of his son William less than two years before.

At his death, according to previous arrangement, the homestead at Stone Arabia and all personal property came into possession of his youngest son, John, who later sold the farm to Adam Kohler. The latter, in turn, disposed of it to Mrs. Eva Helebrent, now deceased, whose heirs still own the land. The house was dismantled about five years ago.

Listed in the personal property was the old family Bible, brought from Germany, which John Lenz specified just before his death was



to be given to my brother, Dr. George Lenz of Gloversville, N. Y., who now owns it and values it very highly.

Children:

Friedrich Karl Lenz (Charles) Charles.

Philippine Wilhelmina Lenz (Mrs. Charles Tanner.)

Heinrich Karl Lenz (Henry.)

Katharine Friedricke Lenz (Mrs. Albert H. Metzger.)

Wilhelm Friedrich Lenz (Frederick.)

Johannes Wilhelm Lenz (William.)

Elizabeth Lenz.

Johannes Lenz (John.)

Grandfather's known relatives, other than his immediate family, were half-sisters and a half-brother who also migrated to Stone Arabia when they were young. "Fritz" Regel, half-brother, married Catherine Steenburg, a widow, and lived in Stone Arabia all his life. He preceded his wife in death and was buried at the Christopher Shultz cemetery. His widow made her home with a family named Failing where she died.

Wilhelmina Regel (Minnie) half-sister, married "Honyerry" Abel, a farmer of Stone Arabia.

Elizabeth Regel, half-sister, never married. She was known as "Waise Lisbet" (Orphan Lisbet.)

Although the name of Lenz still appears in Werdorf and surrounding villages, no one of our particular clan is now living—at least no one who is able to definitely establish the kinship. Undoubtedly these people are distantly related even though they are unaware of it.

Grandmother was the oldest child of six in the following order of birth:

Elizabeth Henriette Regel, grandmother.

Karl Regel, father of Mrs. John Lenz, Fonda, N. Y. (Migrated to America June 10, 1869.)

Friedrich Regel, Werdorf.

Phillipine Regel Pohl, Werdorf.

Johannes Regel, Werdorf.

Katherine Regel Pohl, Werdorf.

Relatives of grandmother still living in Germany.

I. Elizabeth Regel Freitag, daughter of her brother Johannes Regel. She is 76 years of age and resides at Werdorf. She has two sons and a married daughter.

Karl Freitag, Werdorf.

Fritz Freitag, Köln am Rhein, an instructor in a Technical School (Cologne.)

II. Katherine Regel Rupp, daughter of her brother Johannes Regel. She is 71 years old and resides at Werdorf.

III. Heinrich Pohl, son of her sister, Katherine Regel Pohl, Werdorf.

The house where grandmother was born in Werdorf is still standing and is occupied by a grandson of her brother, Johannes Regel.

## GENEALOGICAL CHARTS

The charts which follow cover the known ancestry of my grandfather Friedrich Konrad Lenz, and my grandmother, Elizabethe Henriette Regel Lenz. They were arranged from data furnished by the pastor of the Werdorf church which, for centuries, was the place of worship of our ancestors. How faithful many of them were in their religious convictions and in their support of the church, you will observe from these charts.

Unfortunately the records of the church go back only to 1722 when, for some reason not explained by the Reverend gentleman, the books were closed leaving one to infer that the earlier records were lost or destroyed. Since many of our forebears were born before 1722, I have called attention to that fact each time their pedigree was not available. It is noticeable that the record of the wives is more often missing which is not surprising since many were undoubtedly natives of neighboring villages, and, therefore, no mention of their birth or marriage would be found in the Werdorf church books. It was quite as customary in those days to go about seeking and courting comely maids as it is today with this difference, that marriages then were generally sanctioned and arranged by the parents.

Johann Heinrich Lenz, our remotest ancestor mentioned, without pedigree, on the church books of Werdorf, may possibly have migrated there from elsewhere, but, it is also probable that he was born there prior to 1722, presumably between 1685-1695. As has been stated before, had I sought to definitely establish his birth date and birthplace, it would have necessitated hiring some one to go up and down the Rhine Valley to search the records in the many village churches where such data is always preserved. Even then the chances would be doubtful whether or not anything definite of him would be learned in that oft burned, pillaged, and war ridden region.

All of the names recorded after 1722 were born in Werdorf and all were christened "Protestant" in the village church. Because of the religious wars and persecutions covering a period of many centuries, that word "Protestant" had exceptional significance, for, again and again it spelled ruin of home life, loss of property, and sacrifice

of life itself. It gives one a feeling of great pride and admiration to observe the courage and staunchness of these families who for centuries so openly went on record for their faith.

All of the names mentioned in the charts still appear in Werdorf and neighboring villages and cities with the exception of Find (kin of my grandfather's mother) which disappeared entirely some 10 years ago.

The information contained in the charts is authentic for the document sent by the pastor was stamped with the official seal of the Church.



## Chart of the Ancestry of Friedrich Konrad Lenz

PATERNAL	MATERNAL
<p>I. Friedrich Konrad Lenz.  Born: December 24, 1812.  Died: September 25, 1894.  Christened: January 1, 1813.  Married: 1835.  Wife: Elizabeth Henrietta Regel</p>	
<p>II. Johann Konrad Lenz.  Father of No. 1.  Born: April 26, 1786.  Died: June 7, 1813.  Married: April 9, 1812.  Wife: Marie Katherine Find.</p>	<p>A. Marie Katherine Find.  Wife of Johann Konrad Lenz.  Mother of No. 1.  Born: February 5, 1793.  Died: November 24, 1848.  Married: April 9, 1812.  Widowed: June 7, 1813.  Remarried: April 2, 1815.  Husband: Johann Friedrich Regel.</p>
<p>III. Philipp Heinrich Lenz.  Father of No. II.  Born: May 7, 1745.  Died: Prior to 1812.  Married: November 8, 1771.  Wife: Eleanore Katherine Kern (2)  Born: October 21, 1751.  Died: No record.</p>	<p>B. Friedrich Ernst Find. (Farmer)  Father of (A)  Born: March 18, 1768.  Died: August 19, 1828.  Married: February 11, 1791.  Wife: Christina Philippina Henrietta Becker (a).  Born: February 6, 1768.  Died: No record.</p>
<p>Johannes Kern (3)  Father of (2).  Born: December 18, 1733.  Died: November 8, 1771.  Wife: No record.</p>	<p>Johann Heinrich Becker, Sr.  Father of (a)  Born: May 4, 1741.  Died: February 11, 1791.  Wife: No record.</p>
<p>Wilhelm Kern.  Father of (3)  No record. (Born before 1722.)  Wife: No record.</p>	<p>Nickel Becker.  Father of (Sr.)  No record, (born before 1722).  Wife: No record.</p>
<p>IV. Johann Heinrich Lenz.  Father of No. III.  No record: (Born before 1722).  Wife: No record.</p>	<p>C. Johann Konrad Find.  Father of (B).  Born: August 28, 1723.  Died: March 16, 1807.  (Church's oldest member.)  Wife: No record.</p>
	<p>D. Johann Peter Find.  Father of (C).  No record. (Born before 1722.)  Wife: No record.</p>

## Chart of the Ancestry of Elizabeth Henriette Regel

(Mrs. Friedrich Konrad Lenz)

PATERNAL	MATERNAL
<p>I. Elizabeth Henriette Regel.  Born: In the night time of February 14-15, 1813.  Christened: February 21, 1813.  Died: April 21, 1887.  Married: 1835.  Husband: Friedrich Konrad Lenz</p>	
<p>II. Friedrich Konrad Regel.  Father of No. I.  Born: March 15, 1792.  Died: December 3, 1874.  Married: November 12, 1815.  Wife: Sophie Katherine Kern.  Mother of No. I.</p>	<p>A. Sophie Katherine Kern.  Wife of Friedrich Konrad Regel.  Mother of No. I.  Born: March 7, 1795.  Died: November 8, 1845.  Married: November 12, 1815.</p>
<p>III. Johann Konrad Regel.  Father of No. II.  Born: December 28, 1761.  Died: July 11, 1799. (?)  Married: November 23, 1782.  Wife: Marie Katherine Pfeffer.  (2).  Born: May 24, 1761.  Died: April 7, 1834.</p> <p>Johann Peter Pfeffer. (3).  Father of (2).  No record. (Born before 1722.)  Wife: No record.</p> <p>Johann Jacob Pfeffer.  Father of (3).  No record. (Born before 1722.)  Wife: No record.</p>	<p>B. Jonas Kern.  Father of (A).  Born: May 13, 1770.  Died: December 10, 1832.  Married: December 13, 1793.  Wife: Maria Katherine Regel (a).  Born: May 28, 1774.  Died: February 11, 1853.</p> <p>Friedrich Regel.  Father of (a).  No record of birth. (Born before 1722.)  Church's oldest member.)</p> <p>Wife: No record.</p>
<p>IV. Konrad Regel.  Father of No. III.  Born: October 27, 1737.  Died: No record.  Wife: No record.</p>	<p>C. Johann Wilhelm Kern.  Father of (B).  Born: March 7, 1728.  Died: No record.  Church's oldest member.)</p> <p>Wife: No record.</p>
<p>V. Johann Friedrich Regel.  Father of No. IV.  No record. (Born before 1722.)  Wife: No record.</p>	<p>D. Wilhelm Kern.  Father of (C).  No record. (Born before 1722.)  Wife: No record.</p>



Charles Lenz  
Anna Elizabeth Keiner Lenz



Mary Lenz Gray



## CHAPTER IV

CHARLES LENZ (1836-1918)

*(Friedrich Karl Lenz)*

## SECOND GENERATION

Charles, eldest son of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabethe Regel Lenz, was born in Werdorf February 4, 1836 and died at the Nathan Littauer Hospital in Gloversville, N. Y., November 13, 1918 of cerebral hemorrhage. He lies buried in Evergreen Cemetery, Sand Flats, at Stone Arabia, N. Y.

The shock of his daughter Mary's sudden death of pneumonia a few weeks earlier was directly responsible for the cerebral disturbance that caused his death.

Being the eldest of eight children, Charles perhaps had of necessity to accept more of the home responsibilities and the sterner side of life, for he lacked that amiability of disposition and ready friendliness which characterized his brothers and sisters. Reared in Germany until he was more than 18 years of age, he might have found it somewhat difficult to adapt himself to new surroundings here in America, for, outwardly he seemed somewhat austere and cold, due to an expression of sternness and seriousness.

Now and then his very blue eyes would light with amusement, and a kindly twinkle would temporarily change his features to softer, happier lines, but, presently something from within seemed always involuntarily to pull him back to his habitual reserve and gravity. Not even his immediate family ever penetrated this reserve, for they always addressed him as "Charles"—a nickname or term of comradery would have been wholly unsuited to his personality.

He was a man of strong likes and dislikes who could not easily conceal his attitude, yet, he was never one to kindle with enthusiasm, or rage, but left those who displeased him strictly alone. One would appraise him as a straightforward, honest, diligent, painstaking, thrifty farmer whose well kept buildings, fields and live stock showed plainly his systematic ways of attending to his affairs, and the well being of his family.

In the care of the home and farm he was ably assisted by his capable, thrifty wife, Anna Elizabeth Keiner to whom he was married about two years after the arrival in Stone Arabia. She crossed from her home in Werdorf in company with the Lenz family, being given over to my grandmother's care until they reached Stone Arabia where relatives cared for her and introduced her to the new country life.

She was born in Werdorf August 7, 1834, the daughter of Johann

Daniel Keiner and Elizabeth ..... Keiner who never migrated from their native land. She died October 28, 1916 of a complication of diseases culminating in dropsy. She is buried in the Sand Flats family plot.

She was throughout most of her life very robust and healthy, short and stockily built with hazel eyes, dark hair and skin. She was somewhat gruff and brusque in manner which fitted rather naturally with her energetic, easy dispatch of her daily tasks. Her housekeeping was so carefully done that I recall as a child hearing



Daniel Lenz  
Robert Daniel Streeter  
Ruth Lenz Streeter

folks say that one could eat from even her cellar floor such habitual cleanliness prevailed from cellar to attic. The rows of milk pans, topped with golden cream, gleamed like polished silver, the stoves were shining black mirrors, and the floors were scrubbed to spotless freshness. This tidiness reached out to the dooryard and garden.

The farm was in an isolated section of Stone Arabia known as "Copenhagen" for some unaccountable reason. Here, untouched by the disturbing influences of modern ideas and situations, they lived their entire lives in rustic simplicity making a very comfortable livelihood to satisfy their simple needs and desires. They cared



nothing for travel and little for social contacts so that their visits to other relatives came at long intervals. In the neighborhood, they were well known and highly respected for their honesty and square dealings, but they kept much to their own fireside and counsel, and found in this somewhat circumscribed life their own particular joys and compensations.

Charles was sturdily built, tall, erect, with blue eyes and light brown hair and seemed always in perfect health.

Eight children were born to them of whom four died in infancy.

Children:

John Daniel Lenz.

Mary Lenz. (Mrs. Charles Gray.)

Elizabeth Henrietta Lenz. (Mrs. John Frohn.)

William Lenz.

Four Infants. (Deceased.)

#### JOHN DANIEL LENZ (1857—)

##### THIRD GENERATION

(John) Daniel, eldest son of Charles and Elizabeth Lenz, was born at Stone Arabia December 4, 1857. He received his education at the district school and from boyhood was trained in duties that pertained to agriculture so that he became a very capable farmer, shrewd in judging land and alert in disposing of his crops.

He was married to Nancy Anna Marie Brookhiser on December 10, 1879 at Stone Arabia, the Rev. N. B. Van Benchoten performing the ceremony. She was born May 24, 1861 at Stone Arabia, the daughter of Joseph Brookhiser and Catherine Lites Brookhiser.

Nancy was a very pleasant, genial woman, fair of face with blue eyes and dark hair, rather short and well rounded in figure. She was intensely devoted to her home and family so that the death of their first born daughter, Mabel, on February 20, 1891, at the age of about two years, was a sorrow from which she never fully recovered. A second daughter, Ruth Catherine, was born July 22, 1892, and the happy parents had the joy of watching her grow to womanhood.

The family resided at several farms in Montgomery county before leasing a very nice farm on the Mohawk Turnpike near Fonda, N. Y., from which they moved shortly after the death of Nancy June 12, 1924. For many years she had been in ill health but death was due to cerebral hemorrhage.

Daniel is now a retired farmer, living in comfort with his daughter Ruth (Mrs. Wesley Augustus Streeter) at Fonda, N. Y. He is of medium height, sturdily built, his blonde hair and moustache not as yet turned grey so that his 78 years sit very lightly upon strong, capable shoulders. About two years ago he was severely injured



by a motorist, but his strong body came through with only lameness as a permanent result. However, his fine sense of humor and sane outlook on life have kept him from dwelling upon this handicap, and he goes about enjoying daily contacts with friends and neighbors, for he is a good conversationalist, well posted on current events.

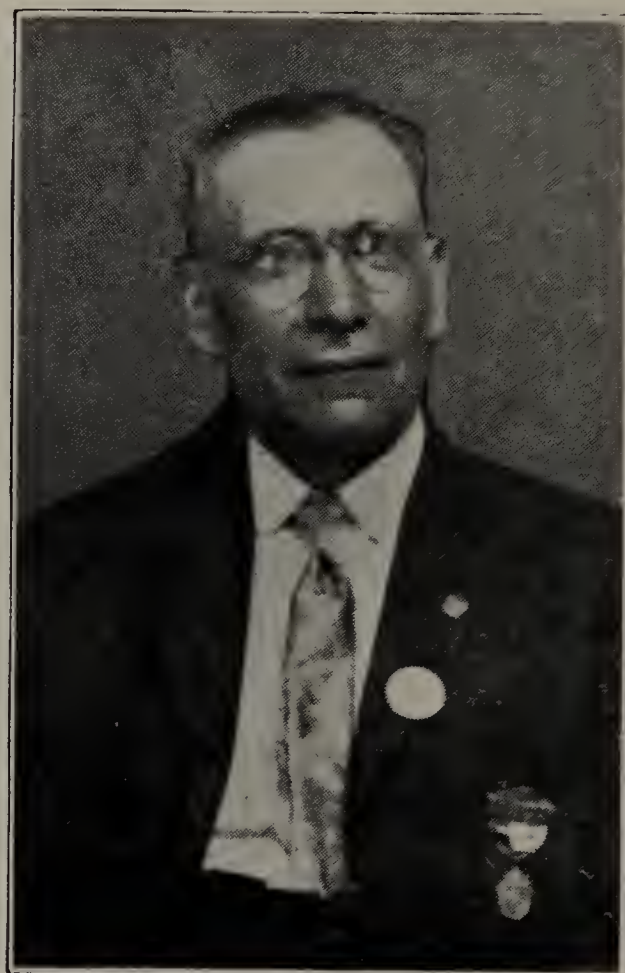
Children:

Mabel Lenz. (Deceased.)

Ruth Catherine Lenz. (Mrs. Wesley Augustus Streeter.)



Elizabeth Lenz Frohn



William Lenz

MABEL LENZ (1889-1891)  
FOURTH GENERATION

Mabel, daughter of Daniel and Nancy Lenz, was born March 13, 1889 at Stone Arabia, and died February 20, 1891.

RUTH CATHERINE LENZ (1892—)  
(Mrs. Wesley Augustus Streeter)  
FOURTH GENERATION

Ruth Catherine, daughter of Daniel and Nancy Brookheiser Lenz, was born in the town of Mohawk, N. Y., July 22, 1892 and has resided most of her life in or near Fonda, N. Y.

She was educated at the Fonda schools, graduating from the High School after which she took a course in music at the Amsterdam Musical Institute. She later taught music, being herself a very good pianist. She was married on September 26, 1917, to Wesley Augustus Streeter, son of William H. Streeter and Carrie Millet Streeter. He was born at Johnstown, N. Y., November 7, 1895.

The marriage took place at Fonda, N. Y., the Rev. Henry C. Cussler being the officiating clergyman. He is employed by the New York Central Railroad. He is an electrician, graduate of the New York Electrical College.

Ruth is short and somewhat stout with blue eyes and light curly hair. She is a very talented, capable, energetic, thrifty woman who is able to combine things artistic with the daily routine of a busy home keeper. One son has been born to them.

Children:

Robert Daniel Streeter.

ROBERT DANIEL STREETER (1923—)  
FIFTH GENERATION

Robert Daniel, son of Wesley Augustus Streeter and Ruth Lenz Streeter, was born at Fonda, N. Y., on October 25, 1923.

Robert is tall, with blue eyes, fair skin and light hair. He is somewhat quiet yet friendly, active and energetic for he is sturdy and robust in health.

MARY LENZ (1859-1919)  
(*Mrs. Charles Gray*)  
THIRD GENERATION

Mary was born to Charles Lenz and Elizabeth Keiner Lenz on October 22, 1859 at Stone Arabia and spent her entire life in that village where she died on October 22, 1919 of pneumonia. She lies buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Sand Flats. She was educated at the district school and assisted her parents in the work on the farm so that she was well prepared when she became the wife of Charles Gray who had likewise been reared on a farm.

He was the son of Stephen Gray and was born at Ephratah September 16, 1862. He died of cerebral hemorrhage May 6, 1931 and lies beside Mary at the Sand Flats Cemetery.

They resided for several years at "Copenhagen," with Mary's parents, and later purchased a farm directly across the road where they lived in rural contentment until Mary's sudden fatal illness.

Like her mother, Mary was thrifty, capable and an excellent house wife. She was of a jovial nature, with a ready laugh, but was somewhat shy in a gathering of people whom she knew but slightly. She



was a robust, sturdy, well developed woman with whom one associates perfect health and freedom from anxiety. She had blue eyes, brown hair, complexion fair with rosy cheeks that grew rosier as her shyness drove her into sudden blushes. This was one trait that I recall most vividly and has served all the years to keep her personality in my mind.

Her husband was a short, stockily built man, very quiet and unobtrusive, genial and a good worker.

No children were born to them.

### ELIZABETH HENRIETTA LENZ (1864-1909)

(*Mrs. John Frohn*)

#### THIRD GENERATION

Elizabeth Henrietta, daughter of Charles Lenz and Elizabeth Keiner Lenz was born at Stone Arabia June 25, 1864. She too was educated at the district school and assisted her parents with the farm duties.

She had hazel eyes, rather dark skin and was the very personification of health, strength and latent energy as she went about her daily tasks. She had a sunny, happy disposition and was at all times a jolly, wholesome dependable companion free from shyness or discomfort, ever ready to enjoy clean pleasure wherever it offered itself in her very circumscribed life, for, she never lived outside the radius of the towns of Palatine and Mohawk.

On December 24, 1884 she was married to John Frohn at the Stone Arabia Lutheran Church by the Rev. W. W. Gulick. He was a native of Germany, the son of Anthony Frohn and Emma Goodman Frohn who migrated to Stone Arabia, and were well and favorably known.

John was 36 years of age and Elizabeth barely 20 when the marriage took place and the union was not approved by her parents for that reason. John was slow in his movements but a painstaking and faithful worker with a kindly manner to everyone and especially so to his family. They engaged in farming, but did not purchase a farm. At the age of about 40, Elizabeth was becoming broken in health which was due to a cancerous growth. It seemed almost unbelievable that one so radiantly alive and healthy in her earlier years could thus lie a suffering, though uncomplaining, invalid for several years until death claimed her on March 15, 1909.

John died of rheumatism and Bright's disease. Both are buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Sand Flats.

Children:

John Anthony Frohn.

Martha Elizabeth Frohn. (*Mrs. Stanley L. Everson.*)



## JOHN ANTHONY FROHN (1886—)

## FOURTH GENERATION

John Anthony, son of John and Elizabeth Lenz Frohn, was born at Stone Arabia December 28, 1886. The family lived at the Wagner farm (the old gentleman who was nicknamed "Senator" Wagner.)

He was educated at the district schools and learned the carpenters' trade which occupation he still pursues at Fonda, N. Y. where he resides. He is tall, with very blue eyes and light hair but is not physically robust having been in ill health for several years, caused by diabetes. On October 18, 1911 he married Edith Anna Long, the Rev. William Parker performing the ceremony. She was born at Stone Arabia December 8, 1893 the daughter of Frederick Charles Long and Margaret Campbell Long. Two children were born to them.

Children:

John Konrad Frohn.

Roxanna Elizabeth Frohn.

## JOHN KONRAD FROHN (1914—)

## FIFTH GENERATION

John Konrad, son of John Anthony Frohn and Edith Long Frohn was born at Fonda, N. Y., October 26, 1914. Following his graduation from the Fonda High School, he has engaged in agriculture. He is tall, with dark hair and brown eyes, clean cut in appearance.

## ROXANNA ELIZABETH FROHN (1916—)

## FIFTH GENERATION

Roxanna Elizabeth, more familiarly known as "Peggy" is the daughter of John Anthony Frohn and Edith Long Frohn and was born at Fonda, N. Y. November 2, 1916.

She was graduated from the Fonda High School and pursued a course in business at Gloversville, N. Y. She is at present engaged as a stenographer and office worker. Peggy is tall, slender, blonde, energetic and capable.

## MARTHA ELIZABETH FROHN (1888—)

(*Mrs. Stanley L. Everson*)

## FOURTH GENERATION

Martha Elizabeth, daughter of John Frohn and Elizabeth Lenz Frohn, was born at Stone Arabia September 12, 1888.

She was educated at the district schools and grew up to understand and to enjoy rural life. When she had reached the age of 18 her mother's lingering illness placed upon her young shoulders

the full responsibility of household duties as well as the care of her mother which duties she performed with exceptional ability and in an uncomplaining spirit.

On March 11, 1908—one year before her mother's death—she became the wife of Stanley L. Everson. The ceremony took place at the parsonage of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Johnstown, N. Y., the Rev. Foster Stone officiating.

His coming into the home circle relieved the father and brother of some of the farm labors and likewise brought to Martha and the



Stanley L. Everson  
Martha Frohn Everson



Mr. and Mrs. John A. Frohn  
Roxanna Elizabeth Frohn  
John Konrad Frohn

household the sustaining sympathy and understanding in the distressingly sad period when her mother was approaching the end of her painful journey.

Stanley, son of Ellsworth Everson and Catharine Meyer Everson (deceased), was born at Stone Arabia May 7, 1887. The only son of a very prosperous farmer, he had the advantage of expert agricultural training and example which is reflected in the successful manner in which he operates his own modernly equipped farm of several hundred acres at Stone Arabia.

He is strong, sturdily built, inclined to stoutness, has sandy hair,



blue eyes and florid skin. He is kindly and cordial in his manner, good natured and easy going but never to the point where he allows slip shod work in those whom he employs.

Martha is tall and slender with dark hair and brown eyes—the somber Madonna type—whose quiet sedate bearing conceals a wealth of cheerfulness and fresh bubbling humor. Added to this is a drollness of expression in her conversation, and an art of mimicry that is quite as entertaining as it is wholly unexpected.

As one would expect, she is slow in her movements, methodical and precise with no fluster or flurry, yet one finds her very large home and its environs always in excellent order.

Both Martha and Stanley are wholesome, sincere, evenly balanced people, zealous workers in the church, the school, the Grange and other activities incident to rural life.

No children were born to them.

#### WILLIAM LENZ (1867—) THIRD GENERATION

William, son of Charles Lenz and Elizabeth Keiner Lenz was born May 18, 1867 at Stone Arabia.

He attended the district school and assisted at home with the farm duties until his marriage February 13, 1890 to Mary Christman, daughter of Anthony Christman and Elizabeth Able Christman. She was born at Ephratah, N. Y., November 6, 1866 and was also married there to William by the Rev. H. P. Moole.

For three years they lived at the Simeon Wemple farm, Town of Mohawk, Montgomery County, N. Y., where their only son, Clarence, was born on January 22, 1891. In 1893 they took up their residence in Johnstown, N. Y. where later William secured an appointment on the police force which he held from 1896 to 1917. In the 21 years of faithful service, he was frequently praised publicly for exceptional courage in dangerous situations. Upon retirement from service, he secured a position in the glove industry and is still engaged in that form of work.

In the days when he patrolled the streets of Johnstown, William was a man of outstanding physique, tall, heavily built, robust with hazel eyes, brown hair and moustache. His powerful frame seemed accentuated by the policeman's uniform and should have been a warning to law breakers of the strength and courage awaiting use.

My recollection of his wife, Mary (or Mate as she was usually called) dates for the most part to the days when as children we sometimes visited them at their farm in summer, where we were made very welcome. Mate was tall, very slender, quick and energetic in her household tasks. Her blue eyes were quick to express each shifting mood; she was straightforward in manner and frank in her comments, but fair in all her dealings.



Although having us children about must have added many steps to her already crowded days, she seemed to enjoy our companionship, and found many ways to entertain us without effort.

They live in their own home at 6 West street, Johnstown, N. Y. and both are in good health.

Children:

Clarence Lenz.

CLARENCE LENZ (1891—)  
FOURTH GENERATION

Clarence, only son, was born to William Lenz and Mary Christman Lenz at the Simeon Wemple farm, Town of Mohawk, Montgomery County, N. Y. on January 22, 1891.

He resides in Johnstown, N. Y. and is employed in the glove industry. He is married but no children have been born to them.

(No record of his wife was available as they did not respond to requests for information.)

## CHAPTER V

PHILIPPINE WILHELMINE LENZ (1837-1920)

(*Mrs. Charles Tanner*)

### SECOND GENERATION

Philippine Wilhelmine, daughter of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabeth Regel Lenz, was born in Werdorf, December 21, 1837 and died of cerebral hemorrhage at Clarence, Missouri on April 10, 1920,

She was always called "Mena" by the family while friends often spoke of her as "Minnie."

The migration to America took place when Mena was 17 years of age so that she was educated in Germany and brought with her the ideas and ideals instilled in her there, yet she quickly adapted herself to American ways.

When she was about 19 years of age an epidemic of eye trouble spread over the village attacking the entire family, especially Mena who went to a near by town to be treated by a physician. Due, in part, to the crude methods used by this doctor, she partially lost the vision of one eye, and as the years went by, in spite of expert medical attention, she gradually grew totally blind.

In 1860 she was married at Stone Arabia to Charles Frederick Tanner who was born in Baden, Germany August 16, 1836 and died in Clarence, Missouri of heart disease on November 8, 1911.

Following their marriage they resided at Stone Arabia, also at Fort Plain, N. Y. and Hallsville, N. Y. In 1884 they moved to Clarence, Missouri, where Charles, always an expert judge of live stock, engaged very successfully in cattle raising and in buying and marketing of live stock. It is worthy of more than passing attention that Charles and Mena had already arrived at the ages of 47 and 46 respectively when this move to the wide open spaces of the sparsely settled west took place. Like most such migrations they had learned of this locality and its possibilities through acquaintances who had preceded them.

Quite naturally, their departure created something of a stir in the family circle as well as in the small village. It seemed incomprehensible to many of these diligent, deeply rooted rural folk that people in middle life should deliberately leave the security of the known for the discomforts, the dangers, and perhaps, too, the deceiving glories of an over praised western country. However, they were not to be swayed from their purpose by the wealth of discouraging opinions and advice, and the step thus taken was a very advantageous one.

I never saw my Aunt Mena as they moved to Missouri when I was an infant so that I must rely for description and information upon others who knew her. She never visited the east after being established in Missouri, nor did the sons, Charles and William. All the rest of the family have, at intervals throughout the many years, paid visits to their native state, and several of the eastern relatives have had the pleasure of being entertained in the homes of these western relatives.

From girlhood, Mena was one of those energetic, ambitious souls



Charles Tanner, Wilhelmine Lenz Tanner

whose hands were never idle and work to her was a joy. It was indeed fortunate for her in her blindness that such was her temperament, for in activity she found happiness and contentment. She went regularly about her household duties unattended and was an excellent housekeeper. While she felt keenly the loss of her eyesight, she sought no pity and uttered no words of complaint. With a quiet philosophy of life that was born of innate goodness and patience, she calmly accepted her appalling affliction and lived a long life of unselfish usefulness. Through gifts that often came to relatives in the east there was ample evidence of her activity, and this beautifully done handiwork amazed all who saw it because of its perfection. I mention in particular a knitted bed spread which she made as a gift for her sister, Elizabeth, and which should have remained in the Lenz family as an heirloom. It was knitted in blocks with intricate pattern having raised flowers and leaves as a part of the design. Even with keen eyesight this would be difficult to accomplish, but she did it with scarcely a stitch misplaced. This spread went, with the rest of Elizabeth's personal belongings, to St. Mark's Lutheran Church of Johnstown, N. Y. and my own regret is that



the present owner does not realize its history or its value.

In appearance, Mena was short and inclined to stoutness. She had brown hair, skin somewhat dark and glowing with the health that comes from contacts with sun and wind. She had a very sweet, pleasant face and a kindly, gracious manner.

Charles was of medium height, stoutly built, somewhat florid with dark hair and blue eyes. His manner was brusque and emphatic which seemed to indicate abundant energy and ambition. Although he had very little education, he was keen and capable in business and was therefore in a position to retire from active participation in affairs many years before his death. With the cooperation of his equally capable wife and family, he had made of this western migration a glowing success in every way.

Six children were born to them before they journeyed to Missouri.

Children:

Prof. John Henry Tanner, B. S., Ph. D.

William Tanner.

Charles Frederick Tanner.

Anna Elizabeth Tanner. (Mrs. Emery E. Casler.)

Mary Ellen Tanner. (Mrs. William Thomas Thurman.)

Carrie Augusta Tanner. (Mrs. Willis C. Spare.)

PROF. JOHN HENRY TANNER, B. S., Ph. D. (1861—)

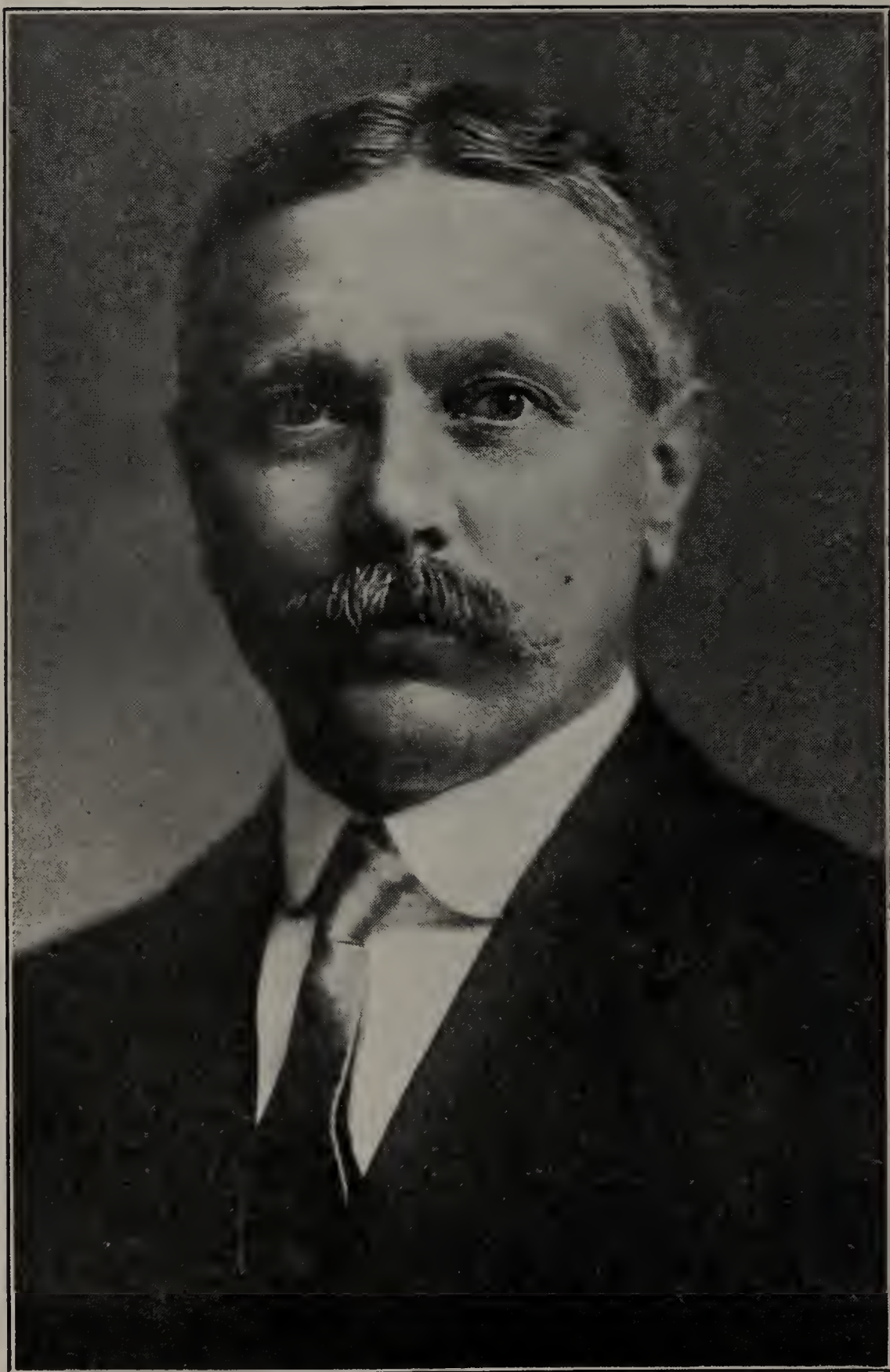
### THIRD GENERATION

John Henry, eldest son of Charles Tanner and Wilhelmine Lenz Tanner was born at Fort Plain, N. Y., on March 1, 1861.

He was educated at the village schools, and from early childhood evinced a marked taste for learning. Being 20 years his junior, I have instinctively associated with him books and educational pursuits, due to my first impressions of him, for when I was a child he frequently spent portions of his summer vacations with our family at Stone Arabia assisting father in the cheese factory. At every free moment he would produce the inevitable book from his pocket, and quietly and unobtrusively give himself over to deep, absorbed study. He was then preparing for college and working faithfully and persistently to accomplish this cherished purpose.

I recently inquired of him whether he recollected when he felt the first inclination to learning, or if he were actually "Born with a text book in his pocket." I quote his interesting reply:

"My earliest recollection of any influence toward scholarly things came quite accidentally from a clergyman with whom I was sitting on a log in a grove while my mother was preparing supper for us. This was when I was about 4 years old. It was "helped" afterwards by many people, in many ways, but it had its genesis in something he then said."



PROF. JOHN HENRY TANNER, B. S., Ph. D.



His father did not approve of a college education, for he had definitely settled in his mind that John should enter the business of buying and selling cattle and grain as offering a far more lucrative livelihood than school teaching. He felt that the average school teachers he had come in contact with were "a poor lot," and he did not wish a son of his—particularly his eldest son—to be classed with them. Many equally well intentioned parents of that period, themselves lacking in education, failed to realize they were but preparing their children to be misfits in life because of this opposition to advanced education and because they held so tenaciously to the idea that the children must carry on the business created by the parents whether it were farming or some occupation of their choosing.

In the case of John, father and son were viewing life from different angles, and the father was taking a slightly one-sided point of view. However, he was absolutely sincere in his efforts to guide John away from what he conceived to be this foolish, detrimental idea of a college education. Year after year saw the frustration of John's dearest hopes for an education and similarly the father was disturbed by the utter failure of his first born son to grasp the business of farming and the good points in appraising cattle. In after years, when in reminiscent mood, both father and son must, indeed, have reviewed this particularly disappointing period in John's life with intense amusement, for he had so obviously all the reflective, studious habits of the genuine scholar with scarcely any of the rustic mannerisms or tastes, that this alone should have readily pointed the way he was destined to go to all who had unprejudiced eyes to see. Let no one infer, however, that John was reared in a home that was intent upon material prosperity alone. On the contrary, his parents sought in every way to instill in their children high purposes and principles of living, strict honesty and uprightness.

At the age of 21 John left the family circle with its conflicting views of what constituted "a man's job in life," nor did he accompany the family a year later when they took up their residence in Clarence, Missouri. Instead he entered Clinton Liberal Institute at Fort Plain, one of the earlier important educational centers of the Mohawk valley, where he worked his own way. Later he entered Cornell University, having won a substantial scholarship, and again maintained himself by tutoring and other means. Every step of these earlier years of progress was a real sacrifice, yet he early learned the value of self-abnegation—the value of subordinating present pleasures to future advancement—so that he was able to meet the distracting events of college life with voluntary renunciation of all that was inconsistent with the high goal he had set out to attain.

He was graduated from Cornell with honors in 1891 receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science, and was immediately appointed instructor in the Department of Mathematics. From 1894 to 1896



he studied abroad, chiefly in Göttingen, Leipzig and Berlin, having won another scholarship entitling him to this post-graduate work. Later, at various intervals in his scholarly career, he pursued his studies in Europe. In 1904 he was elected to full professorship, having served as assistant professor for several years, and from 1910 to 1926 was head of the Higher Mathematics Department. In 1926 he was retired by Cornell University after 35 years of continuous, faithful service to his Alma Mater, and as Professor Emeritus, he now occupies a place of distinction and affection on the campus. Upon his retirement, many fine tributes were paid to his character and to the excellence of his record throughout his long service which may fittingly be summarized in this brief statement, that as a man and as an instructor he was "four square," doing unto others only such things as he would that they should do unto him.

His chief asset as an instructor was, of course, his thorough understanding of his subject coupled with a sincere, quiet compelling personality that gave to him an unconscious power to inspire his students to realize themselves and to give whole heartedly their best to the task in hand. To make higher mathematics glow with interest was indeed an accomplishment in which he excelled.

Distinguished by his scholarly attainments, he has won an enviable and wholly merited place in the leading National biographical works such as "Who's Who in America," "American Men of Science," and many similar publications. The ensuing achievements are listed in some of the above mentioned which show briefly something of his versatility, the broadness of his interests and his capacity for accomplishing immense labors with ease.

Life Member of the American Mathematical Society.

Fellow of American Association for Advancement of Science. (A. A. S.)

Member of Society for Promotion of Engineering Education. (S. P. E. E.)

Delta Upsilon-Sigma X.

National Geographic Society. (Affiliated.)

Member of Board of Directors of National Mathematical Society.

Treasurer of the American Mathematical Society.

Secretary of the Faculty Arts and Sciences 1897-1903.

Secretary of Cornell Faculty.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University Christian Association.

Received the degree Ph. D. from New Hampshire College in 1901.

Author of several mathematical works:

Analytic Geometry. (Tanner and Allen) 1898.

An Elementary Algebra, 1903.

Key to Elementary Algebra, 1905.

High School Algebra, 1907.

Brief Course in Analytic Geometry, 1911.

Editor—Plain and Solid Geometry, 1909.

These text books have been used by High Schools and many of the foremost Universities all over the country. I quote a few of the comments upon the "High School Algebra," after its publication in 1907. They are typical of the estimates of each of his books.

Harvard University Mathematics Department: "The High School Algebra is better than anything I know of in a book on Elementary Algebra."

University of Illinois: "I like Tanner's Algebras because they teach the student to think and not to be content with only methods. He is a master at presenting things clearly and interestingly."

Superintendent of Schools, Lexington, Ky.: "Tanner's High School Algebra is the best that I have ever examined."

By a gift of \$50,000 to Cornell University about the year 1922, John and his wife together established the "Tanner Fund" for the benefit of the Mathematics Department with which he had so long been identified. This gift they have since increased to \$100,000—a truly worthy contribution to the advancement of education as well as a genuinely deserved living memorial which will forever preserve a name that reflects only credit and honor upon his cherished Alma Mater.

His notable and praise worthy success, won by unremitting effort and whole hearted travelling to the goal of endeavor, entitles him to a pardonable pride but I have yet to see him overestimate his achievements or his importance. He has borne his honors without arrogance or boastfulness and with becoming dignity. I am paying no idle compliment when I say that few men have attained such heights among their contemporaries and won such scholastic honor in America while retaining so much of unspoiled goodness as has John. He has an inborn refinement of spirit, a kindliness and loveliness, a courtesy and polish that characterize him at all times as a truly gentlemanly personage.

The many organizations and activities with which he has been intimately identified indicate the degree to which his counsel and wisdom have been sought.

His friendships are many and sincere. Likewise his charities and benevolences are legion and bestowed in silence, unheralded. Remembering his own unaided struggles for an education he has again and again assisted young men and women in their financial affairs at Cornell—entire strangers to himself, accepting their pledge only



as security. In this he has had an able second in his fine wife, Clara, who herself in ill health, has opened her home repeatedly to convalescent students for long periods of time to give them this financial boost and the encouragement they needed. This I have learned not from John, but from other trustworthy sources.

Since 1887 his busy life has been lived in Ithaca, N. Y. where he has given his generous support, not alone to the college activities and pursuits, but also to the church, to civic affairs and to the community in general. His has been an honorable life that has kept in the foreground high standards of citizenship and exemplary conduct in private relations.

He has never felt resentful or embittered toward his family because of their earlier disapproval of his life work. On the contrary, he has been a devoted son of whom they have been justly proud.

By frequent visits in years gone by, he has kept the old time personal contact with the home folks, and even the more distant relatives. He still expresses himself often as "hungry" to see those of his kin.

He received an excellent inheritance on the physical side for he has suffered few serious illnesses. However, some six years ago, he had the misfortune to fall and fracture his hip which has not wholly corrected itself, although he is now able to walk with the aid of a cane about the house.

Although he has now reached "the twilight of life," and is still somewhat hampered and shut in by his lameness, his 76 years have not dimmed the keenness of his intellect nor his lively interest in the world outside his small family circle. His large, kindly blue eyes reflect their satisfaction and joy in living while an abundance of snow white hair and a white mustache have replaced the dark brown locks of the industrious student and instructor of other years.

With his wife he has travelled widely, having lived for months at a time in Europe, particularly in Germany and other parts. They were in Germany at the outbreak of the World War and had to curtail their travels for that reason. They cruised over the Mediterranean visiting the Holy Land, Egypt and other points of interest. John was in California during a severe earthquake that destroyed the hotel and all of his valuables, some of them being curios he had collected in Mexico. Memory of these interesting other days makes rich with interest his present semi-invalidism.

In the family circle he is the genial interesting companion. He was married at Ithaca on June 20, 1893 to Clara Martha Williams, daughter of Josiah B. Williams and Mary Hardy Williams. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Asa Fiske.

Clara was born at Ithaca, N. Y., on December 7, 1862 and re-



ceived her education at Ithaca, at Wells College, Aurora, N. Y. and at Crouse College, Syracuse, N. Y.

Possessed of a reserved yet resourceful and hospitable temperament, her contribution to the home life has been that of unruffled domesticity that creates an atmosphere of restfulness, peace, harmony and relaxation. Her pleasures are in the happiness and well being of her family and friends. She has been forced by delicate health to live for the most part within the shadow of her own fireside or in carefully planned leisured travel, nevertheless through her gracious, unobtrusive hospitality and smiling, sincere cordiality, she has impressed her rare personality upon an amazingly wide circle of friends who recognize in her self-effacing thoughtfulness of others, her unexampled sweetness and patience, the generosity and beauty of soul from which these admirable qualities emanate. That she is quietly but deeply religious goes without saying. Accustomed from childhood to an environment of culture and affluence, she is very much at ease as mistress of a very pretentious home, yet, neither she nor John ever intrude their material possessions, or seek to impress those whom circumstances have placed in simpler surroundings. Tact, kindness and the repose of their own well ordered lives sets at ease even the humblest guest so that hearts are warmed and spirits refreshed at their fireside.

No children were born to them, but in 1911 they welcomed into their home Georgia, the orphaned daughter of the brother William Tanner of Clarence, Missouri, who still resides with them in every way a devoted, beloved daughter.

#### ADDITION

Since the above was written I have the ensuing interesting information to add as received from Clara Tanner whose words I quote:

"I remember, with real gratitude to the hospitable people, our visit to Werdorf years ago. I was still just a young American bride, unable to speak their language, except the language of a smile, and very shy. The people were just dear to us. There was no hotel in Werdorf, so John and I stayed in the next village where there was one, and went for the day to Werdorf. Fritz Freitag's father and mother entertained us at their home and escorted us from one hospitable house to another through the village.

"I had tried to think what we could bring home to Mother Tanner from her birthplace. Being sightless, no picture could she enjoy with physical eyes—but, finally came a happy thought, we got some small, smooth pebbles from under the Dill River, of which she had so often told us, and also brought some sprigs of ivy, gathered by Mrs. Freitag for us, from the walls of the "Schloss" (Castle.) The ivy, under the care of John's sister Ella, grew and other stems

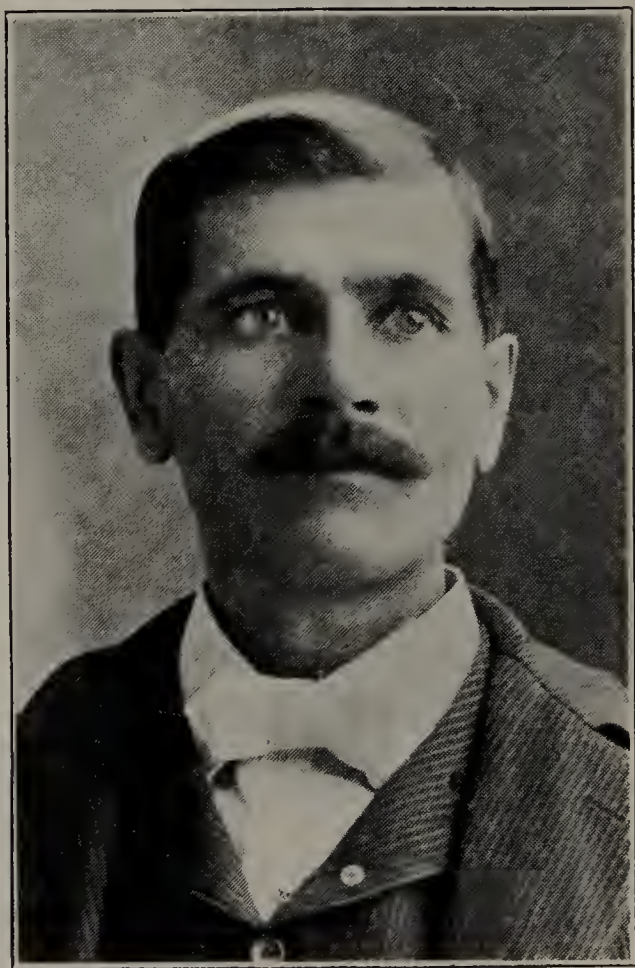
we brought here to Ithaca have now grown until they cover a space some 10 feet square on a shaded wall of our house. They are lovely and green all through the winter."

WILLIAM TANNER (1863-1911)  
THIRD GENERATION

William, second son of Charles Tanner and Wilhelmine Lenz Tanner, was born at Stone Arabia, N. Y. on June 28, 1863 and died



Charles F. Tanner, Jr.  
Mary Isora Felker Tanner



William Tanner

at Clarence, Missouri September 14, 1911, death being due to a complication of diseases. He is buried in Clarence.

His education was received at the district schools of Stone Arabia. He was 21 years of age when the family left the east, and was already well trained in farm duties. He engaged in farming and cattle raising, most of his life assisting his father in developing the embryo western venture into the larger thriving business of later years.

In January, 1887 he was married to Lila George Chinn, daughter of George Chinn and Maria Sue Arlington Chinn. She was born in



Grand Cane, Louisiana in January, 1866 and came to Clarence with her parents as a little child of a year old. She was educated in the Clarence schools and upon graduation from the high school, taught school until her marriage. Her father, George Chinn, was at one time a member of the Missouri State Legislature.

She was a sweet tempered, companionable woman, unhurried in her ways and a devoted mother. Grave illness sapped her energies and made her an invalid for several years before death claimed her on April 19, 1907 at the early age of 41 years. The immediate cause of her death was heart disease and dropsy.

William, who also passed through much suffering for many years survived his wife by four years when he too was released by death.

#### Children:

Essie Lou Tanner. (Mrs. Herbert M. Moore.)

Georgia Ella Tanner.

Arthur Carl Tanner. (Deceased.)

#### ESSIE TANNER (1888—)

(*Mrs. Herbert M. Moore*)

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Essie, daughter of William Tanner and Lila Chinn Tanner was born December 6, 1888 at Clarence, Missouri.

She received an education at the local schools, and after graduation, remained at home until her marriage to Herbert M. Moore on June 8, 1910. They reside at Lentner, Missouri where the husband operates a farm. She is an energetic, capable woman, thrifty and an excellent housewife. The prolonged illness of her parents before her marriage left much of the responsibility of the home upon her youthful shoulders. but her good judgment and discreet management kept the home in good order and comfort in spite of the ever present environment of grave illness. In this effort she was assisted by her only sister Georgia.

No children were born to them.

#### GEORGIA ELLA TANNER (1890—)

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Georgia Ella, daughter of William Tanner and Lila Chinn Tanner, was born at Clarence, Missouri on May 6, 1890.

She attended the schools of her native town but did not finish her course in High School since it was necessary for her to assist in the care of her parents who were gravely ill for several years before death claimed them both within the space of four years.

Her sister, Essie, had married in 1910 so that, upon the death of the father in 1911, the home was broken up and Georgia, then 21 years of age, went to Ithaca, N. Y. to reside with her father's brother, Prof. John H. Tanner.

By her straightforward manner and her loveliness, she at once found a daughter's place in the home and the affections of her uncle and aunt which relationship has grown ever more precious with the years. Her devotion to their comfort and happiness along with



Georgia Ella Tanner



Essie Tanner Moore

her ceaseless vigilance over their health is extremely refreshing to see. Her whole life seems to center in doing things for them.

After she came to Ithaca she attended Boarding School at Bishopthorp Manor and was graduated from there four years later. She attended special classes and lectures at Cornell University, received piano instruction at the Ithaca Conservatory of Music, and in many other ways availed herself of the opportunities that campus life offer. She supplemented her education by extensive travel in our own country and abroad including many parts of Western Europe, the Mediterranean countries, Egypt and the Holy Land.

She is attractive in appearance, short but well proportioned, has



large gray eyes and dark brown hair. She is vivacious in manner, energetic, capable, gentle and sweet tempered.

She is unmarried.

ARTHUR CARL TANNER (1896-1897)

FOURTH GENERATION

Arthur Carl, son of William Tanner and Lila Chinn Tanner, was born at Clarence, Missouri, December, 1896 and died there in August, 1897.



Ella Tanner Thurman



Carrie Tanner Spare

CHARLES FREDERICK TANNER, JR. (1865-1907)

THIRD GENERATION

Charles Frederick, third son of Charles Tanner and Wilhelmina Lenz Tanner, was born at Stone Arabia May 22, 1865 and died an accidental death at Kansas City, Missouri on March 12, 1907. He is buried in Clarence, Missouri.

He was of medium height, sturdy with blue eyes and light hair. Most of his life found him engaged in agriculture which he was taught along with his lessons learned at the district school. He, too

was of great assistance to his father in pioneering in the West for he had arrived at the age of 19 and knew much of farming and live stock.

He was married at Clarence on October 20, 1890 to Mary Isora Felker, daughter of Herman Felker and Charlotte Shockley Felker, who resided in Cooper County, Missouri at the time of their daughter's birth.

Several years after their marriage, they took up their residence in Kansas City, Missouri where he was employed by the street railway company.

Mary Isora Felker Tanner, his widow, died June 6, 1936 at her Kansas City home following a lingering illness.

She was a sweet, timid, frail woman who cared only for the home and the comforts she could give to her dear ones in spite of her sufferings.

Two children were born to them.

Children:

Virginia Tanner.

Roy Elgin Tanner.

#### VIRGINIA TANNER (1893—) FOURTH GENERATION

Virginia, daughter of Charles Frederick Tanner, Jr. and Mary Felker Tanner was born at Clarence, Missouri, July 21, 1893.

She received her education at Kansas City and has for several years been engaged in newspaper work. She is a very capable young woman, attractive in appearance and manner, devoted to her widowed mother with whom she lived in Kansas City.

#### ROY ELGIN TANNER (1896—) FOURTH GENERATION

Roy Elgin, son of Charles Frederick Tanner, Jr. and Mary Felker Tanner, was born May 28, 1896 at Kansas City.

He was educated at Kansas City and is also engaged in newspaper work. His present residence is Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

He was married in 1916. No record of wife was given.

Children:

Roy Elgin Tanner, Jr.

#### ROY ELGIN TANNER, JR. (1917—) FIFTH GENERATION

Roy Elgin, son of Roy Elgin Tanner and his wife was born at Kansas City, Missouri on July 9, 1917.



He received his education in the local schools and is still a student. It has not been my privilege to meet the Kansas City relatives, but those who have visited them have informed me that they are whole-



Anna Tanner Casler



Mildred Casler

some, kindly, industrious people, highly regarded by those with whom they come in contact.

ANNA ELIZABETH TANNER (1870—)

(*Mrs. Emery E. Casler*)

THIRD GENERATION

Anna Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Tanner and Wilhelmina Lenz Tanner, was born at Stone Arabia, N. Y. on March 7, 1870.

She was 14 years of age when the family removed to Clarence, Missouri so that her schooling was provided for in both localities. She assisted her parents in the home duties, and had the privilege of growing up with the village from its sparsely settled proportions of some 300 souls in 1884 when they arrived, to a modern, well planned village which now numbers more than 1500 inhabitants.

On January 30, 1895 she became the wife of Emery E. Casler,

son of Frederick Casler and Catherine Hansen Casler, who was born at Fort Plain, N. Y.

They engaged in farming and stock raising with such marked success that Emery was able to retire from business many years ago. Having, therefore, ample leisure and means, they infrequently motor east to their native state, New York, for brief visits with relatives, but it has not been my good fortune to see them upon those occasions.

My recollection of them dates some 25 years back when last I had contact with them in person. Anna was then tall, slender, with very blue, large eyes, brown hair, a ready, winning smile and a jovial disposition. She was so neat and trim in appearance that one instinctively felt the orderliness and precision with which her home life was planned and executed. Emery was very tall, slender and not at all robust in appearance. He had blonde hair and moustache and blue eyes. He went to Missouri when a young man.

One daughter, Mildred, was born to them.

#### MILDRED CASLER (1898—) FOURTH GENERATION

Mildred, only daughter of Emery Casler and Anna Tanner Casler, was born at Clarence, Missouri, May 6, 1898.

Following her graduation from the High School, she entered Hardin College at Mexico, Mo. and also received training at the Hardin College Conservatory of Music. Later she pursued a course in business at Chillicothe Business College at Chillicothe and attended the State Teachers' College at Kirksville, Mo. Also the University of Missouri at Columbus from which she received her Master of Arts Degree in June, 1937.

Mildred is given to scholastic pursuits, is ambitious, energetic and very capable as well as versatile.

She is a charming woman of medium height with brown hair and blue eyes.

She is unmarried and resides in Clarence with her parents.

#### MARY ELLEN TANNER (1876—) (*Mrs. William Thomas Thurman*) THIRD GENERATION

Mary Ellen, baptized Mera Ellen, but more familiarly known as Ella was born at Fort Plain, N. Y., August 6, 1876 to Charles Tanner and Wilhelmina Lenz Tanner.

Being but eight years of age when the family took up their residence in Clarence, she received her education almost entirely in the west and grew up with the village and its traditions. She has vis-



ited the east but once, some 35 years ago, and many pleasant memories linger of her pleasing personality, her vivacious, energetic ways, her friendliness. She was short, small featured, somewhat delicate physically and had grey-blue eyes and brown hair. I recall vividly what great joy she found in every rock she saw, for Clarence was destitute of stones although it was abundantly supplied with heavy clay soil which stuck heavily upon wagon wheels of other days. When she returned to Missouri, she had many specimens of rocks in her trunk as souvenirs of her visit. To have gone to such inconvenience to make room for the rocks was evidence of her genuine enthusiasm and admiration.

On October 14, 1920 she became the wife of William Thomas Thurman, a native of Monroe County, Missouri, the son of John F. Thurman and Mary J. Moss Thurman. He is the owner and manager of several agricultural and stock farms, a man of means, ability and business acumen, very well known throughout the entire County of Shelby in which Clarence is located. They reside at Clarence.

Ella has had a great share in their success for she is thrifty, has foresight and a gift for management—the assets of the homemaker. No children were born to them.

#### CARRIE AUGUSTA TANNER (1878—)

(*Mrs. Willis C. Spare*)

#### THIRD GENERATION

Carrie Augusta, daughter of Charles Tanner and Wilhelmina Lenz Tanner, was born at Fort Plain, N. Y., October 8, 1878, and at the age of six she was transplanted to Clarence where she was educated.

In 1901 or 1902 she spent some months visiting relatives in the east and her enviable physical fitness, her superabundance of energy and strength, her powers of endurance and her dynamic personality are recollections of her that I shall never be able to erase. She was tall, erect, sturdily built with sun tanned skin, grey, almost hazel eyes, light brown hair, straight and simply arranged. So accustomed was she from childhood to wandering in the fields at her father's side, riding the horses or herding the cattle that she felt restricted by the closer contacts of city life. She was in truth the daughter of a pioneer.

On October 7, 1903 she was married at Hamilton, Missouri to Willis C. Spare, son of Phillip Spare and Sarah Ann Motter Spare, who was born near Brookville, Pennsylvania. He is a man of ambition, energy, physical fitness equivalent to her own. They purchased a large tract of land in the newly opened Canadian Northwest—a pioneering life for which Carrie was temperamentally fitted

as well as by hardy out of door life since childhood.

Adverse experiences were bound to come, as it does to all who attempt such difficult tasks. To return from a day in the blistering sun of wheat harvest to find the house—their only shelter in the vast uninhabited area—a smoking ruin was among the many hardships they had to face.

After years of cooperative labor, splendid team work, thrift and commendable courage and grit, they have the satisfaction of calling their own a ranch of 1120 acres near Calgary, Alberta, Canada. It is given over almost entirely to the growing of wheat.

They own a home in the village of Calgary where they reside. No children were born to them.

#### NOTE

In January, 1937, Carrie and her husband paid a visit to relatives in Gloversville, also other parts of New York State and Pennsylvania, returning to their Canadian home by way of their former home in Clarence, Missouri.



## CHAPTER VI

HENRY LENZ (1845-1919)

(*Heinrich Karl Lenz*)

### SECOND GENERATION

If in this particular chapter I walk far and somewhat more intimately on the road with Memory, you will bear in mind that the story which I am attempting to relate, all too imperfectly, is that of my own father and of the family circle that gathered about him, of which I was the youngest member.

My father, Henry Karl Lenz, was the son of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabeth Henrietta Regel Lenz and was born at Werdorf, Germany August 11, 1845. He died at Gloversville, N. Y. of cerebral hemorrhage on October 16, 1919. He is buried at the Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Between those two seemingly commonplace dates there lies the story of a man's life so worthily lived that generations of the future will find in the reading of its brief summary an effectual stimulus to higher and nobler deeds.

I have always been exceedingly proud and grateful that circumstances placed my chair beside this particular fireside over which such a father and mother presided, for the high ideals, the unswerving integrity, the abiding principles that were set before us daily by precept and example, supplied for each of us the foundation of a sane philosophy of living, and a capacity for enduring life's inevitable allotments, whether meted out in cups overflowing with joys or with sorrows.

Again and again I was moved to laughter or sadness as I sought to record these brief fragments from the picturesquely diversified scenes swiftly reconstructing themselves out of our family life. How very fittingly these touching lines of the poet kept sweeping into my thought—

"Backward, turn backward, O Time in your flight.  
Make me a child again—just for tonight."

In spirit I have again lived over my childhood, and in retrospect, it looms more precious each year. What happy memories would be the lot of every child who could thus have tasted rural life in the simple, wholesome atmosphere which surrounded us at Stone Arabia!

My father was 35 years of age when I, the fifth child, was born so that, when I came to see him understandingly, he had reached

the age of about 40. He was then of medium height, well proportioned, of fine physique, fair with light brown hair already streaked heavily with gray, and he always wore a moustache. His eyes were very blue and had at the corners small radiating lines that gave to his face an appearance of eagerness and kindliness. Quite suddenly these expressive lines would seem to shut off this light leaving his face cold, disappointed and sorrowful. We children were quick to observe that Daddy's eyes did not smile when we had disobeyed or displeased him so that they were habitually the barometer by which we gauged our behavior more particularly if there was any lurking doubt in our minds as to its propriety. As he grew older, these lines grew deeper and accentuated the mobile expression of his face. Always a fine, clean looking man, he grew more handsome as he approached old age, for his abundant snow white hair seemed to accentuate every line of character in his face and to make his eyes as blue as the sky itself.

When father was nine years old the family left Germany to come to America and he was not considered too young to have a part in assisting his father and brothers in clearing the land for their new home in Stone Arabia. When that task was completed, he worked for neighboring farmers all day in the heat of the hay fields or barns. He was scarcely able to read or write English when his schooling was considered complete, which was unfortunate for him, for father had a keen mind and might have gone far as a scholar.

On October 9, 1865, at the age of 20, he was married to Anna Margaret Kinkle, 18 years of age, of Stone Arabia. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Weisman at Little Falls, N. Y. She was the daughter of Henry Kinkle and Anna Margaret Wagner Kinkle having been born at Wolshausen, Province of Hesse-Darmstatt, Germany on September 18, 1847.

The Kinkle family had preceded the Lenz family in migration to Stone Arabia by four years, having arrived in October, 1850 when my mother was three years old. The father had purchased tickets to Buffalo by way of the Erie Canal but on the boat he met a Mr. Abel whose brother, William Abel, lived in Stone Arabia and had sent for the brother to come. This gentleman over persuaded the Kinkle family to disembark with him at Fonda where they learned that the brother, William Abel, had been dead several weeks.

Strangers in a strange land, the Kinkle family at length grew accustomed to the new ways and built a home where in 1870 the father died of asthma. Two months earlier the only son, Adam, had died of pneumonia so that the mother came to live with my mother and father, who had been married shortly before, and she was a part of our home circle for some 23 years until her death in 1893. She adored my father and in all those years, he never spoke an unkind word to her.

My mother had very little schooling and cared nothing for an ed-



ucation in her younger days. She was thoroughly domestic—the typical housewife, ambitious, thrifty, frugal—the slender, wiry, highly nervous type with physical endurance beyond belief. Although she was subject to very severe headaches and stomach disorders, yet she had the grit and perseverance to stick to her post and what a day's work she could negotiate! She rarely weighed more than 100 pounds, was of medium height, although she seemed taller because of her slenderness. Her eyes were small and grey, set in a fair oval rosy-cheeked face, her features were finely cut, her hair dark brown which curled in stray ringlets about her face although she sought always to conceal its beauty as if it did not belong to an industrious, sensible housewife. Her marvelous constitution, her energetic, independent spirit made her always seem thoroughly alive. Until she was 87 years old she retained much of her youthful ambition and spirit, managed her own home even to baking her own bread and other food while her radio was tuned to the current affairs of the day. Only the finest music received her attention and approval.

She suffered two paralytic strokes in June, 1935 and was physically unfit to carry on her duties, but she was mentally as alert as ever and directed her household affairs to the end.

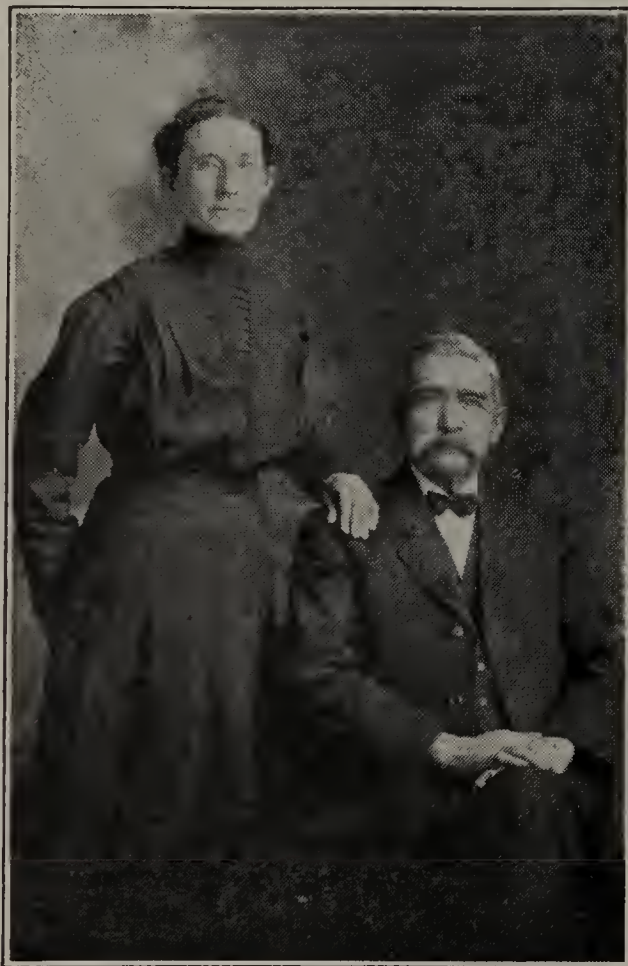
My father was of the opposite nature—slow, deliberate, methodical, mild and well controlled in manner, yet not placid. He was the literary type—the student—and realizing keenly his own lack of schooling, he was intensely interested in the educational and cultural training of the growing family while providing abundantly for their material welfare. He was constantly feeding his scholarly curiosity even to the evening when the fatal illness stilled the brilliant mind—reading, always reading, not fiction of love and romance, but history, biography, science, travel, everything that fed the insatiable appetite for learning. Adding always to his store of knowledge along with a keen accurate memory for detail, as he grew older he gave the impression of being a highly educated man. To be as well informed as he was in so many ways is, after all, to be well educated even though one's schooling has been very meagre.

Mother and father were "ballast" for each other throughout their 54 years of married life. She brought to the home structure frugality, vigor and an unusual capacity for management of material things that father had in lesser degree, while he contributed and set in motion the scholastic and literary ideals. In her younger intensely busy years, my mother had no conception of the value of such cultural pursuits to the future happiness and welfare of the family, but with the leisure of middle life came also a thorough appreciation and enjoyment of such things, nevertheless to her "Work" was placed foremost in importance.

Ideally mated and equipped with health, ambition and a firm purpose, these two began their married life by living with father's parents because of the invalidism of his mother—an arrangement

that must have somewhat irked a spirited, energetic bride of 18 years of age. At the end of four years they learned the trade of cheese making at the Cold Springs factory at Stone Arabia, being taught and employed by John Vosburg and Fannie Rickard from 1869 to 1873. They then contracted to manage the Christman factory (now known as the McKinley factory) from 1873 to 1876.

Soon after they took up their duties, father contracted diphtheria, which was epidemic in severest form, whole families being wiped out. Father had already reached the stage of coma when "Old Doctor



Margaret Kinkle Lenz  
Henry Karl Lenz

Pete" (Dr. Peter Isenlord) was at length located, and he virtually rescued father from the grave. He was an eccentric character, sort of a vagabond with an almost uncanny genius for diagnosis.

In 1876 they left the Christman factory to operate the Stone Arabia factory where in 1880 I first saw the light of day, and the following year they purchased the Cold Springs factory where, some years before, they had learned the art of cheese making. The house, which had previously stood beside the factory, had burned so that they built a home across the road from the factory. Here my intimate knowledge of family affairs took form, and rural life to me is synonymous with the joy giving memories of the 12 acres of land



that accompanied the purchase of the home and cheese factory.

Realizing the need of companionship of children of our own ages which we had only at school, father and mother welcomed the city nieces and nephews during the summer vacations. From July to September, "Uncle Henry's" became the rendezvous for the children of all ages, yet somehow they seemed to fit in and did not disrupt the household, for they worshipped my father and rarely failed to respect his wishes. How mother ever kept the larder so constantly filled and cared for their laundry, mending, and innumerable other needs along with her own increased duties of preserving, pickling and gardening is something to amaze us all as we listen again and again to her amusing tales of those happy by gone days. What patient, kindly, great-hearted folks they were! The very mention of the word "cheese factory" will stir fond memories in many of "Uncle Henry's" nieces and nephews, themselves now fathers, mothers or even grand parents with hair whiter than was my father's when they were summer guests at the old factory home.

On December 12 of the year 1888, we moved to Gloversville, N. Y. in order that the family might again be united, my brothers, Clark and William, having already been established there for a few years. Also that we might have better and more convenient schooling. I recall how bitterly cold the day was when father's brother John came to drive us women folks to our new home. My uncle's jolly manner and beaming, happy face were all that saved us from actual suffering.

We were tucked in a very nice upstairs apartment on Jay street, with no garden and only the narrow driveway for our playground. The landlord who lived downstairs was a night watchman and slept the better part of the day, yet he seemed always present to guard his lawn as if each blade of grass were a silken thread. With no facilities for play and walking always softly as if with padded shoes lest we arouse the ire of the landlord, our first fifteen months of city life failed miserably to measure up to expectations particularly when we recalled the freedom of rural living and our 12 acre playground. I must say, however, that the landlord's wife and children were very good, kind hearted German folks who stepped as softly as we did by day, but at night the restraint was lifted and limited freedom was granted.

With father's predisposition to skin troubles, he almost immediately became infected by working in a leather factory—a very serious case of blood poisoning. He spent the summer at Stone Arabia at his brother John's farm to recuperate, and in the autumn returned to Gloversville. He then found employment with Thomas Edwards, dealer in provisions, feed and hay. April 1, 1890 they purchased a house at 7 Sixth Avenue (then known as White street) with a large garden and sand hills, open spaces and freedom all about. For more

than 47 years this home has been the central spot from which our family life has radiated.

Father's health again became impaired by the lifting of heavy grain and hay so that it seemed wise to start in a small grocery business of his own. In 1890 he purchased two vacant lots at 287 and 289 North Main street, previously owned by Clark and William, and a small building was erected which was, from time to time, enlarged as the business grew from wheel-barrow deliveries to automobile truck.

Father was meticulous, honest and conscientious in his dealings, but because of that very integrity and dependability, he was able to make a very comfortable livelihood so that in 1904 he sold the business to my sister's husband, Frank A. Patten, and he retired from active business although he spent much of his time at the store. Father retained the property, which he leased to Frank, and there was also a creamery and a meat market in the building. In 1928 the property was purchased by Frank A. Patten who still owns it.

Father was a man of kindly ways in business as he was in the home circle so that he was affectionately known throughout the neighborhood as "Daddy Lenz." I think he enjoyed his business as he did his books, for it gave him friendly contacts with people and with traveling salesmen who brought ideas and opinions from other localities to him. There was about him an air of dignity that discouraged any coarseness or vulgarity of speech or manner. However, he was wholly approachable, not reticent, for people and conversation meant much to him. His alert, extraordinarily retentive mind invariably gathered, from even such casual contacts, something of interest to relate, something of importance to place in his well ordered store house of information.

A close observer of men and events, he entered with understanding interest and enthusiasm in all questions of the day, weighing, sifting, forming opinions of his own and holding firmly to his convictions of what he believed to be right. He was very set in his opinions, confident in argument, strong in his prejudices, but never vindictive. When people displeased him, his weapon was absolute silence and a studied ignoring of the offender. That trait he inherited from his father and like his father, he too sought the solace of his pipe until his balance was restored.

In politics he was an ardent Republican and had a personal knowledge of national affairs since Lincoln occupied the President's chair. He was a home loving man so that he held but one civic office—that of city assessor for a period of two years, yet few men ever set a finer example of law abiding citizenship than did he.

He was deeply religious, but never outwardly demonstrated emotion. It was rather the deep seated, quiet goodness of one who had settled in his heart the question of his spiritual well being as satis-



factorily and calmly as he had his well adjusted home and community life.

Father and mother were among the few moving spirits who founded St. James' Lutheran Church on Grand street, Gloversville, and thus became charter members contributing generously of their time and funds to the maintenance of the growing church. Father held the office of Elder at various times and was treasurer of the church for years. One of my choicest recollections is of seeing him donning rubber boots and rain coat and braving flooded streets in a terrific thunder storm to go to church because it was his duty to care for the collection. One is reminded of those early ancestors in Werdorf who, at the age of 96, were known as the "Church's oldest." My mother has the distinction of being the oldest member of St. James Church and possibly the only living charter member, although I was unable to verify this statement.

Father's friendships and affections were likewise of the type that made the least noise but they were loyal and lasting. He gave quietly to worthy projects and to needy folks and sought no praise. He had his reward in the great respect and regard of the people of the city in which he dwelt for more than 30 years.

Perhaps the ensuing tribute, paid by an humble Italian shoe maker, who for years daily visited father's store, will best portray father's character to those who were not touched by his living personality. The shoemaker had personally selected for my father's burial a large basket filled with many costly dark red roses. When the florist reminded him of the expense of the selection, he turned indignant, sorrowful eyes upon the man, and in broken English remarked, "What do I care! Are they not for 'Daddy Lenz?' "

Father loved travel and had all his life cherished a dream that some day he would visit his birth place in Werdorf, but my mother's fear of the sea and an equal dread of entrusting him alone to the dangers of such a voyage made him regretfully abandon the idea. He had brought with him from Werdorf a mental picture of a pear tree in one corner of his father's garden—a tree of wonderful size laden with wonderful fruit. Again and again he would describe this tree in his characteristically vivid manner so that one could see it there and taste, in imagination, with him the luscious, sweet golden fruit. I have no doubt the pears seemed of purest gold and grew in size and beauty at each telling as his longing to visit the old Werdorf homestead and his native village faded into the realm of unrealized dreams. It is to be regretted that this cherished visit was denied him.

The prospect of a comfortable, serene old age as a reward for thrift and industry in earlier years was the goal held before each of us by father and mother, and, it is indeed a source of happiness to all that in their case this expectation was realized. In the evening of life they were never separated—always together—as they

had been for 56 years, cooperating in thought, word and deed. This is the agreeable picture of deep, quiet devotion, of loyalty, of contentment, of perfect understanding that will live forever in the hearts of their children and children's children, and, of all whose lives were touched by their personalities.

Anna Margaret Kinkle, widow of Henry Karl Lenz, died on August 10, 1937, of cerebral hemorrhage and other complications incident to old age. Her health had been failing for more than two years but she was not confined to her bed and all of the faculties were keen to the end. Had she lived one more month, she would have reached the goal of 90 years—an honor she sought ardently and all of her children coveted with her. She passed in her sleep so that her going to meet "those whom she had loved but lost awhile" was quiet and peaceful as her whole long life had been.

#### The Watcher

"She always leaned to watch for us,  
Anxious if we were late,  
In winter by the window  
In summer by the gate;  
And though we mocked her tenderly,  
Who had such foolish care,  
The long way home would seem more safe  
Because she waited there.

Her thoughts were all so full of us,  
She never could forget!  
And so I think that where she is  
She must be watching yet.  
Waiting till we come home to her,  
Anxious if we are late—  
Watching from Heaven's window,  
Leaning from Heaven's gate."

—Margaret Widdemer from *Cross Currents*, copyrighted by Harcourt Publishing Co., 1921.

Children:

Clark Lenz.

William Henry Lenz.

Martha Lenz (Mrs. Frank Arthur Patten.)

Dr. George Lenz, F. A. C. S.

Ella Elizabeth Lenz (Mrs. Albert William Patten.)

CLARK LENZ (1868—)

THIRD GENERATION

Clark, eldest son of Henry Lenz and Margaret Kinkle Lenz, was born February 20, 1868 at the Fryc farm near Keck Center, N. Y., where the parents resided temporarily for three months with father's brother, Charles and his wife. Shortly after Clark's birth



the family went to live with father's parents at Stone Arabia where they remained for four years.

Clark secured an education in the district schools where the various cheese factories were located, attending regularly until he was probably about 17 years old. He was an excellent penman and rarely sat down but he busied himself perfecting his skill in this line.

At the age of 18, in the year 1886, he secured a position in a leather factory in Gloversville, N. Y. and took up his residence with mother's sister, Mrs. Jost Grebe on North Main street. When two years later the family moved from Stone Arabia to Gloversville, he again took up his life in the home circle.

On October 28, 1896, he was married to Anna M. Richards, daughter of William Richards and Nancy Jane Chapman Richards. She was a native of Gloversville, born February 17, 1868, and died June 12, 1918 at the Gillette farm on East State street where they then resided. Her death was due to internal cancer from which she suffered patiently and uncomplainingly for several years. She lies buried beside twin sons at the Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Anna was a tall, very slender, delicately framed woman with dark hair, large blue expressive eyes set in a pale, thin face. She had a very sweet lovable disposition with a pleasing manner; enjoyed conversation and people so that she readily fell into the activities of worth while affairs. She was an ardent worker in St. James' Lutheran church, almost the last effort before her death being to prepare the annual report of the Ladies' Missionary Society of which she had long been the secretary. For several years prior to her marriage she was assistant secretary of the Young Women's Christian Association being aptly fitted both in character and temperament for that type of effort. She had never been accustomed to house work before marriage so that it was not wholly agreeable to her, but she was jolly too by nature and made light of tasks she disliked doing. They were married at their newly furnished home at 7 Sixth Avenue (White Street) by the Rev. John J. Dominic, and shortly after they purchased a house at 7 Wood street where, on June 28, 1901, a daughter, Margaret was born. On September 18, 1907 twin sons, Alton and Allan, were born but they died the following November leaving a keen sense of loss at their brief stay. Clark was for many years engaged in the wholesale and retail creamery business at the rear of father's grocery store on Main street, but in 1908 he purchased a location at 81 East Fulton street where he added to the creamery business the manufacture of ice cream. This venture was somewhat too strenuous as Anna's health was never of the best and Clark had suffered from boyhood from inherited stomach disorders. After some five years Clark disposed of the business and operated a farm and Model Dairy on Phelps street for his brother, Dr. George Lenz. It was here that his wife was stricken with the malignant disease so that the care

of the large dairy was no longer possible. They removed to the Gillette farm where two years later, in June, 1918, Anna's death took place. No finer example of loyal devotion, patience and almost super-human physical endurance could ever be brought to one's attention than was shown by Clark during the many months of Anna's painful illness. Himself in ill health, which culminated in a surgical operation immediately after his wife's death, he bore his own suffering in silence, and brought only cheer to her bed of pain.

On February 12, 1920 he was married by the Rev. George Bickle



Clark Lenz

to Adelle Irene Lee, a school teacher in the public schools of Johnstown, N. Y. She is the daughter of Milford Leroy Lee and Mary Ellen Jones Lee of Clintonville, N. Y. and was born in Lewis, Essex county, N. Y., October 31, 1875. She came of Welch stock.

Della is of medium height and build with an abundance of dark auburn, wavy hair, blue eyes. She is vivacious, energetic, very brisk in manner, quick in speech, of a highly nervous temperament, frugal and thrifty. She is a graduate of the University of Vermont, class of 1897, and ranked very high in efficiency as a teacher. She taught school at Burlington, Vermont before coming to Johnstown.

After a year's residence at 11 West Eighth avenue, Gloversville, they returned to farm life and purchased a portion of the Model



Dairy Farm owned by Dr. George Lenz. After five years, they sold the farm and removed to Scotia, N. Y. where for three years they operated the Schairer berry and vegetable farms. In 1933 they purchased a farm near Sloansville, N. Y. which they sold in 1935 and now reside west of Johnstown, N. Y. on a farm owned by the widow of father's brother, Fred Lenz.

It is characteristic of the Lenz family to be somewhat fixed to one spot, but Clark has in his temperament something of the rover—the restless spirit of the pioneer. He seems ever to enjoy the



Margaret Lenz Briggs, Harold D. Briggs and Family

fresh experience of getting established in new environments—the familiar, settled course of things is irksome and depressing. In spite of this somewhat vacillating tendency, he is loyal and steadfast as a friend, extremely exemplary in his habits, open handed, kind hearted, cheerful, optimistic and hopeful in spite of the fact that he has never been physically robust. He is fond of good music and when younger played the violin fairly well. Ever a lover of fine horses and cattle, he is an excellent judge of their qualities and value. In his younger days he enjoyed nothing more than training a horse for the saddle or driving. The animals seemed instinctively to understand his kindly touch and to respond readily without fear. He liked too the zest of a good horse trade and he still enjoys trading of other kinds.

Clark is tall, slender with blue eyes and dark brown hair that refuses to give way to the customary grey of middle life. He has the bronzed skin of one who has daily intimate acquaintance with weather. His step is as brisk as a young man's and all of his movements are quick—bristling with energy and activity. This superabundance of nervous energy made him somewhat impatient and high tempered in his younger days, inclined to be argumentative and a trifle

dictatorial, but, so thoroughly has he overcome these imperfections, while still retaining much of his inborn fire and enthusiasm, that one can find only admiration for the remarkable patience, the forbearance and the unselfishness revealed by the Clark of today.

Three children were born of his marriage to Anna Richards.

No children were born of his second marriage.

Children:

Margaret Jane Lenz (Mrs. Harold David Briggs.)

Allan Lenz (Deceased.)

Alton Lenz (Deceased.)

#### MARGARET JANE LENZ (1901—)

(*Mrs. Harold David Briggs*)

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Margaret Jane, only daughter of Clark Lenz and Anna Richards Lenz, was born at 7 Wood street, Gloversville, N. Y. on June 28, 1901.

She was educated in the local public schools, graduating from the Commercial Department of the Gloversville High School in the class of 1921. For two years after graduation she was employed in the offices of the Bacmo Glove Company.

On June 30, 1923 she was married at the Phelps street home, by the Rev. William W. Barclay of St. James' Lutheran Church, to Harold David Briggs of Johnstown, N. Y., son of David Henry Briggs and Jennie Hogaboom Briggs. He was born at Johnstown, N. Y. on January 8, 1900.

Harold is a man of powerful physique, over six feet in height and weighs more than 200 pounds. He is fair skinned with brown eyes and dark brown hair. His forebears were of sturdy early English, Swiss and Holland Dutch stock that settled throughout the Mohawk Valley. He is jovial, sincere and genuine, honest and dependable, an excellent business man combining thrift, good judgment, courtesy and agreeableness—splendid assets for making friendships.

He attended the Johnstown schools and in 1923 he was graduated from Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania, receiving the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Electrical Engineering. He was very prominent in college athletics attaining at the same time high scholastic standings. He is a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

For one year and six months he was employed as engineer at the Schenectady plant of the General Electric Company and for nine years he was with the New York Power and Light Company. They resided at Schenectady, at Hoffmans, N. Y. and Scotia, N. Y. His health was being impaired by indoor work so that, in 1934, he resigned his position and they took up their residence in Johnstown, N. Y. where, with his father, he is at present engaged in the pre-



paration and distribution of pasteurized milk—the first plant of its kind to be operated in that city. They purchased a house adjoining the historic Sir William Johnson Fort and Museum and facing Johnson Park. A three acre garden extends to a winding creek that once belonged to the Johnson estate, the waters of which, when diverted inland, furnished a private swimming pool for Sir William and his guests. The indentation is plainly visible and is to be found on the land now belonging to the Briggs property.

As a growing girl, Margaret was somewhat delicate in health, and her young womanhood was saddened by the prolonged suffering and passing of her mother. Much of the responsibility of the home fell upon her none too robust youthful shoulders, but she willingly and unselfishly accepted her share of the duties lightening, wherever possible, the anxieties of her father, who was likewise in ill health.

That Margaret is constitutionally vigorous is evinced by the fact that eight children have come to bring joy to their fireside, six of whom are living. If one cares to glimpse picturesque, inspiring scenes of a modern large family in action, they are to be found in satisfying abundance in this exceptionally united, well organized home. Here directness, simplicity, genuineness prevails. There are no blustering, impetuous, indefinite, bewildering spurts of discipline on the part of the parents followed by laxity, lenience, over-indulgence or partiality, but there exists a consistent vigilance, a clear headed foresight, a prudence and sympathy that restrains, encourages and directs the tastes, interests and aptitudes of each child individually so that each understandingly finds his particular place of usefulness in the family circle, in school and in the community. It is intensely interesting to hear these little ones—the eldest barely 11 years old—explaining in scientific terms, with complete understanding, the mechanical processes and methods of operation in pasteurizing milk. They are keen, brilliant children whose minds are intelligently and patiently fed with the useful knowledge they seek. They have already begun the study of music and at a recent church entertainment, all but the newest babe took part. The entire family attend church regularly at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Johnstown, N. Y., the children being very interested in the Sunday School.

Whatever labors, self-denials, anxieties or sorrows have come to Margaret and Harold in their successful parenthood must, indeed, be amply recompensed by the joys and satisfactions of counselling and guiding these healthy, interesting children through the enchanting days of youth until each shall find his place in life's great plan and fill that place conscientiously and usefully.

Motherhood has erased delicate health for Margaret. She is robust, sturdy, inclined to plumpness of figure, of medium height with dark brown hair and grey eyes. She is jolly, vivacious, has an air of contentment, adapts herself readily to her surroundings and cir-

cumstances, is in every way a helpmate for her very kindly, generous, jovial, capable husband.

### ADDITION

Since the foregoing record of Margaret and her family was written I have learned more of the ancestry of her husband, Harold David Briggs. He is a descendant of Jorg Martin Dillenbeck from whom Dr. Albert Lenz of Schenectady is also descended. Jorg Dillenbeck's record will be found in a later chapter, in connection with the ancestry of Dr. Albert Lenz and more completely in the Dillenbeck Genealogy published in 1936 by the St. Johnsville Enterprise and News at St. Johnsville, N. Y.

Harold's line of descent from Jorg Martin Dillenbeck comes through the latter's son John Dietrich Dillenbeck born in 1731 at Stone Arabia and married to Maria Maynard, born in 1745.

John Dietrich reported for military service on March 21, 1757 when Sir William Johnson sent the militia to Fort William Henry at Lake George. His name also appears in the Revolutionary War roster. Jorg Martin, his father, fought in Queen Anne's War which entitles Harold and his descendants to membership in the societies Sons and Daughters of the Colonial and Revolutionary Wars.

Other family names concerned in the descent of the strain are Spraker, Briggs, Hallenbeck, Hogaboom.

#### Children:

Infant son, died at birth, March, 1924.

Clark David Briggs.

Ruth Anna Briggs.

Harold Lenz Briggs.

Kathryn Margaret Briggs.

Richard Henry Briggs (Deceased.)

Frederick Raymond Briggs.

Paul Lovern Briggs.

### CLARK DAVID BRIGGS (1925—)

#### FIFTH GENERATION

Clark David, son of Harold David Briggs and Margaret Lenz Briggs, was born at Hoffmans, N. Y., on March 12, 1925.

He is a very brilliant, promising lad with splendid health, ambitious, energetic and dependable even in major responsibilities. He is sturdy in build with blue eyes and light brown hair—a clean cut, fine looking boy. He is musical and is studying the violin. He has a steady, even disposition.



## RUTH ANNA BRIGGS (1926—)

## FIFTH GENERATION

Ruth Anna, daughter of Harold David Briggs and Margaret Lenz Briggs, was born at Hoffmans, N. Y. on December 10, 1926.

Ruth is dark eyed with dark hair and olive skin. She is vivacious and energetic, capable for one of her years, brilliant in school and at her music and dancing studies. She plays the piano in which she is much interested. She is very trustworthy and adopts quite a motherly attitude toward her smaller sisters and brothers. She is a very attractive child.

## HAROLD LENZ BRIGGS (1928—)

## FIFTH GENERATION

Harold Lenz, son of Harold David Briggs and Margaret Lenz Briggs, was born at Scotia, N. Y. on July 2, 1928.

He is blonde with large blue eyes and gives the appearance of being a trifle frail in health although he is perfectly well and sturdy. He is shy and quiet in the presence of strangers but has plenty of energy and liveliness when with familiar associates.

## KATHRYN MARGARET BRIGGS (1929—)

## FIFTH GENERATION

Kathryn Margaret, daughter of Harold David Briggs and Margaret Lenz Briggs was born at Scotia, N. Y. on October 1, 1929.

She is blonde with large blue eyes. She is very shy and quiet, well behaved, capable for one so small, and self reliant to a marked degree. She is energetic and full of life.

## RICHARD HENRY BRIGGS (1931-1932)

## FIFTH GENERATION

Richard Henry, son of Harold David Briggs and Margaret Lenz Briggs, was born at Scotia, N. Y. on August 29, 1931, and died there on September 25, 1932. He was stricken suddenly during the night with acute gastro enteritis and died about four hours later.

He was a beautiful babe, fair with large blue eyes—a dear little cherub. He was sweet in temperament, always smiling and sunny even when aroused from sleep at unexpected times—just a tiny, radiant sunbeam loaned to earth for a little while to keep forever bright and warm a spot in the hearts of all who loved him.

## FREDERICK RAYMOND BRIGGS (1933—)

## FIFTH GENERATION

Frederick Raymond, son of Harold David Briggs and Margaret

## THE LENZ FAMILY

Lenz Briggs, was born at Scotia, N. Y. on December 18, 1933.

He is blonde, sturdy, healthy and full of life, with a sunny disposition.

## PAUL LOVERN BRIGGS (1935—)

## FIFTH GENERATION

Paul Lovern, son of Harold David Briggs and Margaret Lenz Briggs, was born at Johnstown, N. Y. on July 17, 1935.

He, too, is blonde with large blue eyes and a sunny, good natured face. He is a sturdy, beautiful child, active and very bright.

## ALLAN AND ALTON LENZ (1907-1907)

## FOURTH GENERATION

Allan and Alton, twin sons of Clark Lenz and Anna Richards Lenz, were born at 7 Wood street, Gloversville, N. Y. on September 18, 1907.

They were delicate from birth and in spite of the best care, it was soon evident that they would not live. They both died during the month of November, about a week apart, from colds which they were too frail to combat. They lie buried at Prospect Hill Cemetery beside their mother.

## WILLIAM HENRY LENZ (1871—)

## THIRD GENERATION

William Henry, second son of Henry Lenz and Anna Margaret Kinkle Lenz, was born August 21, 1871 at the Cold Springs factory, Stone Arabia, in the house which stood beside the factory, it being later destroyed by fire.

He went to the district school until he was about 17 and showed an especial aptitude for mathematics. In those days, school teachers were often far less equipped mentally and by training than were many of the older scholars, and it was one of the sure tests of a teacher's ability and popularity to be able to answer all manner of strange questions or to solve difficult, tricky arithmetic problems. To fail in a reply, or even to hesitate, often established the doom of a teacher, for the gloating children passed the word on to the parents, who in turn lost confidence in the teacher. William was foremost in his arithmetic classes and would often have a difficult problem solved before the teacher had arrived at the first step in procedure. However, William was much too soft hearted to harrass the teacher, but he naturally felt quite pleased at his ability to outstrip even the teacher.

I am reminded of a kindly, white haired, lame, saintly old soul who was our teacher. He scarcely knew how to solve even the



simplest problems in arithmetic. He kept a well stuffed valise in the loft of the coat room and the pupils speculated much as to its mysterious contents. One day, fatal to the future peace of the poor old man, he failed to place it in its usual hiding place. The older boys confiscated the contents and discovered sheet after sheet of arithmetic problems carefully solved evidently by some one other than he. He had been in the habit of leaving the room when he could not explain a problem and this valise was the secret source of his sudden acquisition of knowledge. When this story made the rounds of the village the old man's teaching days would have been over had not William championed his cause, and by his own popularity, won the other boys to help, rather than hinder, the crippled old gentleman in his only means of livelihood. The personality of this dear old teacher still lingers in my thoughts, although I was scarcely five years old when I came under his kindly influence, so that his presence was of value to us all even if our knowledge of the "Three R's" was not perceptibly increased. He was an example of the soft hearted, gently reprimanding type of teacher who actually quietly slipped candy to the offender to soften the velvet handed discipline. He was the exception, for the "hickory stick" type was much too common in those days. I mention this incident to show William's thoughtfulness even as a growing boy, and to call attention to the primitive methods of teaching then. Small wonder parents were none too proud to have a son or daughter take up the business of teaching.

William helped regularly in the factory and with the care of the land and cattle, but influenced by the experience of brother Clark, who had for two years been employed in Gloversville, William also decided to try out city life. He was 17 years of age, when in September, he began his duties in a glove factory and also lived with mother's sister, Mrs. Jost Grebe. Two years later he joined the home circle when the family came to live on Jay street in Gloversville.

On May 22, 1901 he was married to Bertha May Nichols, only child of William Henry Nichols and Rose Busick Nichols of Gloversville, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. William Henry Groat, pastor of the North Main Street Methodist Church of which she was an active member.

She was educated at the local schools and was employed in the glove industry until her marriage.

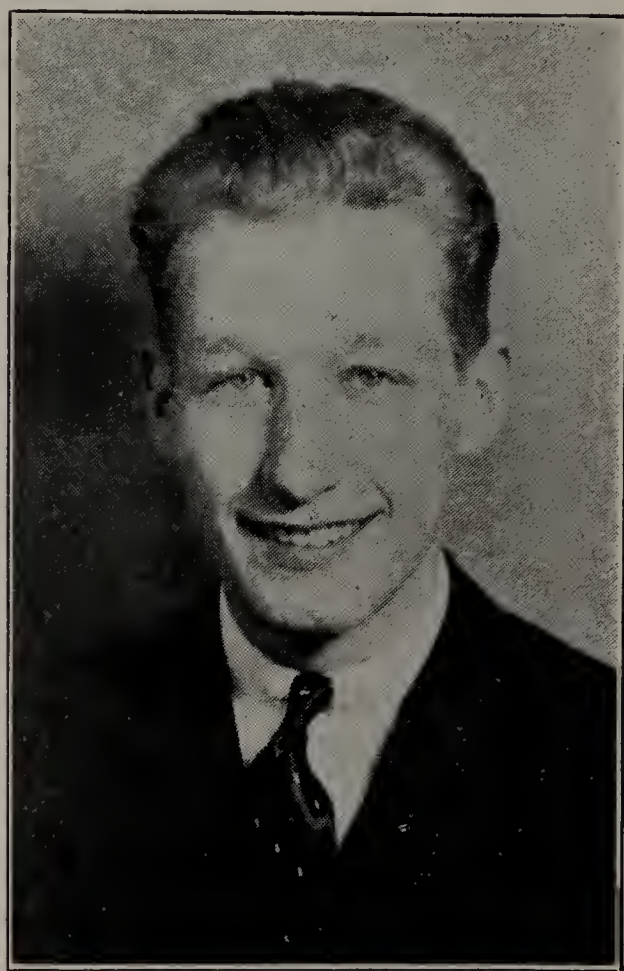
Bertha is of Welch and German descent, blonde, ruddy of complexion, inclined to stoutness, but very well proportioned, strong, robust and blessed with a sturdy constitution. She dresses in excellent taste and is an exceptional housekeeper—quick, energetic, ambitious—never idle even after she has dispatched a tremendous amount of physical labor for she finds some handiwork with which to occupy her busy, seemingly tireless fingers.

She is decided in her likes and dislikes, emphatic in her opinions, somewhat aggressive in manner, frank and outspoken, often unintentionally so, but when one is accustomed to her habit of directness, they discover in her a kindly neighbor, a loyal friend with a heart of gold. She is socially inclined, very hospitable and generous. She is a Past Matron of Cayadutta Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star.

At the time of their marriage, William had for several years been identified with father in the grocery business. Shortly after his marriage he sold his interest to my sister's husband, Frank A. Patten,



William Henry Lenz



William Henry Lenz, 2nd

and engaged in the wholesale and retail creamery business in the same building on North Main street. In 1930 he disposed of this business and became associated with his son, Donald, in a mortuary establishment at Canajoharie, N. Y., formerly owned by Clark Young. In 1933 they returned to their former residence at 62 Union street, Gloversville, N. Y. where they still reside.

From childhood William has exemplified the symbolic meaning of the name Lenz, "Spring," for his exuberance of spirit and bubbling joyousness creates about him an atmosphere of sunny gaiety which of course has become tempered with the years. He is frank and good humored, easily imposed upon because of his trustful nature and



lack of suspicion, so that as a business man he has not been too successful at times because of this very lax vigilance.

He is yielding in disposition but not fickle or given to adventure. That he is slow to anger and lenient goes without saying. Indelibly associated with my brother, when we were still together in the home circle is his happy, jolly disposition and his propensity to whistle merrily whether at work or play. His whereabouts or his home coming were invariably heralded by the familiar strains of some lively tune and equally animated was he when playing rollicking country dance tunes upon his violin. He and Clark were much sought after by their friends to play at private barn dances or house parties, and how Will's nimble fingers could fly over the strings! Always leaning more naturally and understandingly to the classical in music, Clark was less animated in his playing and it would amuse him to observe and himself feel the spice which Will's playing gave to the occasion, although it was more imperfectly done than his own. I have found it an effort to speak of him as "William," for he was rarely thus called. Will or "Bill" seemed more suited to his gay personality.

Will had no ear for the classics, but unlike father he was himself vibrant, alive with rhythm and music.

Wherever the musical strain is conspicuous in the family it has been received through intermarriage, for the first and second generations of the Stone Arabia branch of the Lenz clan were void of all knowledge or appreciation of classic music, only folk tunes, hymns and simple melodies were within their understanding. My father had no sense of rhythm or ear for music. He could not even hold to pitch when attempting on rare occasions to whistle. It was an unfailing source of delight to inveigle him into singing his favorite song about "The Old Black Crow." No crow ever acquitted himself so unmusically as did father and he was well aware of it too. How his expressive eyes would twinkle with merriment at our hilarious enjoyment of his farcical performance! It was my mother who brought to our family the musical strain and the understanding of the deeper music, although she, herself, never played an instrument. This talent came from her mother's family, the Wagners, among whom were several professional musicians. Whether this branch of the Wagner clan was directly related to the distinguished composer, Richard Wagner, I have not sought to investigate, but at some future time I shall do so.

Generously endowed by nature with health, a fine physique, handsome clean cut face, blonde, curling hair and small blue eyes, William has given pleasure to many an admiring eye as well as diffused sunshine, cheer and happiness over a wide area. Although 66 summers have turned his blonde hair to winter whiteness, they have disturbed but little his appearance except to mould it into greater maturity.

Let it not be thought that life has repaid him always in sunshine and gladness. Reverses have come, cherished dreams have slowly faded just as tiny wisps of smoke lose themselves in nearby clouds; "Fickle Fortune" has played many a prank and handed thorns where roses were planted and expected, yet through it all, his manner is not embittered or despairing for always the sparkling, genial soul of him shines through. Hope sends him on his way.

He is a member of Gloversville lodge of Masons. Also the Eccentric Club. The family are members of St. James' Lutheran Church.

Children:

Donald A. Lenz.

William Henry Lenz.

#### DONALD A. LENZ (1902—) FOURTH GENERATION

Donald, the eldest son of William H. Lenz and Bertha Nichols Lenz, was born March 5, 1902 at 10 Sixth avenue (then White street) Gloversville, N. Y. He attended the local schools and later took a course at the Bryant-Stratton School of Finance, Boston, Mass. He graduated from the Renouard College of Embalming, New York City in 1921 and for four years he was employed by morticians in that city. For another four years he was engaged by the Traugott Company of Syracuse, widely known as expert morticians. In 1930 he resigned his position and formed a partnership with his father to purchase the Clark Young funeral parlors on Main street, Canajoharie, N. Y. In 1933 he removed the business to its present location at Palatine, N. Y. and his father and mother returned to their former home in Gloversville.

Eight years of valuable experience with morticians of importance gave to Donald an excellent background for entering the field in his own establishment. He at once gained a well deserved reputation for expert embalming and for dignified, sympathetic conduct of funerals. His prepossessing appearance, too is an asset, for he is more than six feet tall, powerfully built and adding to his weight as the years are added—blonde, erect with every indication of abundant health, energy and ambition.

Although daily associated with intimate sorrows and solemn scenes, yet he never carries with him an atmosphere of gloom or sadness. He is jolly, friendly, amiable with a ready smile and a pleasant voice. He is quick in temper, due to high tensioned temperament, emphatic and frank, but not aggressive unless the case requires such measures. In the home circle he is gentle, lenient and indulgent.

On March 10, 1923 at the historic "Little Church Around the Corner," New York City, he was married to Margaret Elizabeth



Trevett of Broadalbin, N. Y., a registered trained nurse, then engaged in her profession in that city.

She is the daughter of Peter Chapman Trevett and Isabel Eaton Trevett of Broadalbin and was born there on August 25, 1897.

She holds membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, on her paternal side being a descendant of Captain John York Trevett of Newport, Rhode Island, who was her great grandfather. He was Captain of a vessel in the Revolutionary War and lies buried in the National Cemetery at Newport.



Donald A. Lenz



Nancy Jane Lenz  
Donald A. Lenz, 2nd

She is short, petite, charming with dark hair, grey blue inquiring eyes, and a straightforward frank manner that is very winning for she gives the feeling of sincerity and genuineness. Her quiet little laugh is always infectious. She is the personification of neatness, order and cleanliness to the point of fastidiousness. She is a gentle, affectionate mother, but outside the home circle, is somewhat reserved—not over enthusiastic about social affairs or group gatherings, although she is gracious and courteous at all times.

Two children were born to them.

Children:

Donald Albert Lenz.

Nancy Jane Lenz.

## THE LENZ FAMILY

DONALD ALBERT LENZ (1930—)  
FIFTH GENERATION

Donald Albert, son of Donald A. Lenz and Margaret Trevett Lenz, was born at the Nathan Littauer Hospital, Gloversville, N. Y., July 10, 1930, while his parents resided at Canajoharie, N. Y.

He is a blonde, vivacious, beautiful child, bright and healthy. He attends a private school in Palatine.

NANCY JANE LENZ (1932—)  
FIFTH GENERATION

Nancy Jane, daughter of Donald A. Lenz and Margaret Trevett Lenz, was born at Nathan Littauer Hospital, Gloversville, also while the family resided at Canajoharie, N. Y. Like her brother she is a lovely child, dainty and sweet, bright and altogether adorable.

WILLIAM HENRY LENZ (1915—)  
FOURTH GENERATION

William Henry II, son of William Henry Lenz and Bertha Nichols Lenz was born at 62 Union street, Gloversville, N. Y. on April 14, 1915.

Having arrived in the home 13 years later than his brother, Donald, he was naturally very much the center of attention, yet, he developed from childhood into young manhood in a wholesome, natural way wholly unspoiled and free from selfishness.

He has a quiet, steady, easy, unembarrassed manner, is genial and cordial but never effusive, has good judgment, is not readily swerved from duties or responsibilities by passing excitements or imprudent activities. He is not of the easily diverted type who follow leaders regardless of convictions of right or the propriety of the things suggested.

He received his schooling in Canajoharie and Gloversville, graduating from the latter High School in 1935. William is not particularly studious but he has an inventive and mechanical turn of mind so that he is very clever at fashioning things in his own well equipped, self made work shop. He is industrious and ambitious but quietly so. Even as a school boy he seemed always to find ways of earning money, and since his graduation has been regularly employed.

In the home where he resides with his parents, he is orderly, companionable, agreeable, not at all assertive or boisterous. His greatest handicap is a rather quick temper which he has tried with success to master. William is tall, slender, very neat in appearance, fair skinned, with blue eyes and light hair.



## ADDITION

On May 28, 1937 William was united in marriage to Wilma Brooks. The ceremony was performed at the First Methodist Church by the Rev. Fred L. Decker.

Wilma is the daughter of Floyd Orville Brooks and Amelia Rhoda Houseman Brooks and was born at Gloversville on December 21, 1916. Her parents are of English and Swiss decent.

She received her education in the local schools, graduating from the High School and from the Gloversville Business College.

She is of medium height, fair, with brown hair and hazel eyes. She is quiet, gracious and cordial in manner, very friendly to meet. Ambitious, thrifty sensible and possessed of good judgment—these are but a few of her many fine qualities.

She is active in the affairs of the First Methodist Church being identified with the choir and the Sunday School as teacher. They reside at 14 Yale street.

## MARTHA LENZ (1873—)

(*Mrs. Frank Arthur Patten*)

## THIRD GENERATION

Martha, daughter of Henry Karl Lenz and Anna Margaret Kinkle Lenz, was born on August 23, 1873 at Stone Arabia at the Christman cheese factory. (Now known as the McKinley factory.)

From birth Martha was frail and delicate in health so that she had very little inclination to indulge in the strenuous activities that entice the robust, energetic child. As a girl she was mild tempered, slow in her movements, timid, shy with a somewhat apprehensive temperament and a lack of initiative, due in part to her lack of vitality, her sheltered environment and constant association with people older than herself. In the rural neighborhood there were few children for playmates so that contacts with children of her own age came almost exclusively at Sunday School or during recess periods at "the little red school house." Even the routine of school, however, was distasteful to her because it necessitated reciting before others, which embarrassed her.

She inherited the love and understanding of good music, and for a few years took lessons for playing the organ of Etta Sitterly Regel (*Mrs. Henry Regel*.)

The advent of the house organ in our Stone Arabia home was indeed an auspicious, memorable occasion. Very great awe and varied thrills possessed each member of the household. Somchow the living room took on an unfamiliar, magnificent air. At first we tiptoed about scarcely daring to touch its polished grandeur. How we children swelled with pride and importance when our schoolmates learned of the newly acquired possession! Few people in the village

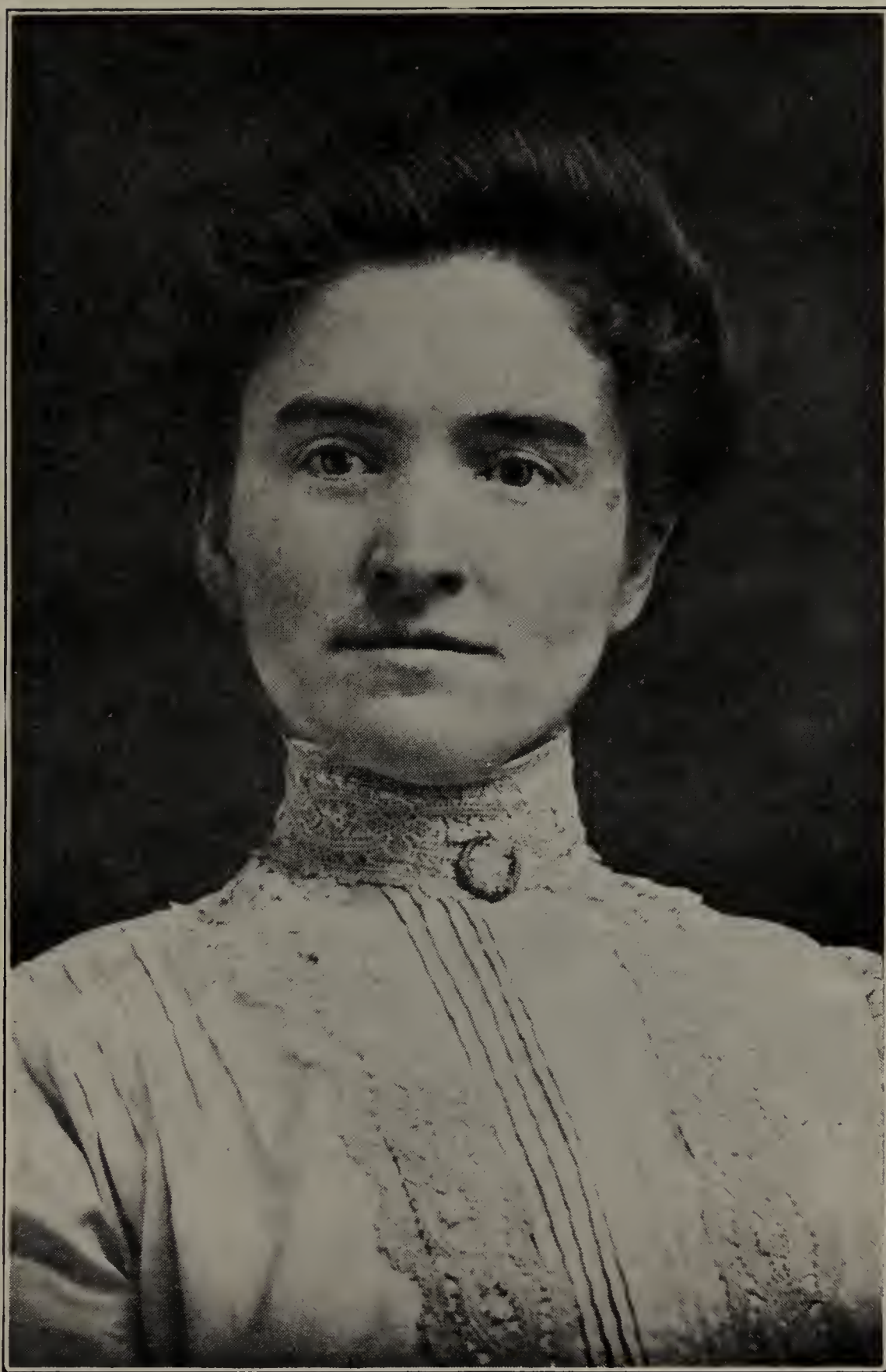
owned an organ, and only the wealthy were expected to afford a piano. I have in my possession the receipt issued to father for payment of the organ dated December 9, 1887, the sum paid being \$125.00, which was much less than the original price quoted. In those days that was considered a very large sum to invest in mere "luxuries," as music was then classed. Although my father was not musical, he saw the advantage of music if only to bind the home circle more closely, and he must, indeed, have rejoiced with mother many times when he saw Martha at the organ and my brothers joining her with their violins. Neighbors and friends brought other instruments and at times group singing had a place at our fireside. These memorable evenings about the organ are indelibly and tenderly fixed in my mind as they must surely be, in greater degree, in the recollections of my sister and brothers, who were much older than I. Mother still has the organ and values it as a rare treasure, for undoubtedly her "Paint Box of Dreams" supplies for her many a lovely portrait wherein the organ holds a place of importance—portraits which you and I cannot see but which she sees with ever increasing beauty as the years go by.

At the age of about 16 years Martha was transplanted from this simple sheltered rural environment to the closer contacts of life in the city of Gloversville, N. Y., but that manifest reluctance to mingle intimately with people grew with her into womanhood, for she ever sought, and still seeks, the society of a few and avoids as much as possible association with groups and crowds.

The first epidemic in America of what is now called "influenza" came to Gloversville in the late winter of 1888 shortly after we were settled in our new surroundings. Martha contracted the disease in severe form. For many years she suffered from the aftermath of its ravages and only in recent years, has she enjoyed any degree of stability in health. From girlhood she also suffered from digestive disorders, violent headaches and anemia.

On October 24, 1899 she was married to Frank Arthur Patten of Gloversville at the parsonage of St. James' Lutheran Church by the Rev. John J. Dominic. They set up housekeeping at 166 Bleecker street, moving six months later to the upstairs apartment at 307 North Main street which property, together with a physician's office equipment, my brother George had purchased of Dr. L. R. Oatman so that he, newly graduated from the Albany Medical College, might locate there for practicing his profession. The family came from the Sixth avenue home to live in the down stairs portion. Thus Martha was again restored to the almost constant companionship of mother and father, from whom she had never been separated until her marriage—a very pleasing and happy arrangement coupled with her new duties as wife and home keeper. With the return of father and mother to the homestead at 7 Sixth avenue, following George's marriage on May 21, 1902, Martha and her husband fol-





MARTHA LENZ PATTEN

lowed in 1904 by purchasing the land adjoining at 5 Sixth avenue where they built the house in which they still reside.

Denied the coveted privilege of motherhood by the loss at birth of a daughter and also a son, she has found a compensating joy in following the interests and progress of the sturdy children of the Lenz-Patten families by whom she is affectionately known as "Aunt Marcie" or "Little Marcie."

She is intense in her affection but not at all demonstrative. She has an air of perfect contentment with life, a modest cheerfulness and a characteristically reserved, subdued attitude toward pleasures or misfortunes so that one would scarcely credit her with being of an intensely nervous temperament which at times she cannot wholly conceal. She shuns situations that place her in a conspicuous place. Modesty and pride make her embarrassed even when others behave unbecomingly. Rigid adherence to conventionality is so strongly developed that it amounts almost to a fault. One cannot conceive of Martha as brusque, bold, rude, vehement or impulsive for she is so uniformly calm, cautious, conservative, quiet, gentle, conscientious and sympathetic. She is intensely fond of animals, birds and flowers—all nature in general. Stray cats and dogs find shelter, food and pity in her gentle ministrations. Her own pets live in luxurious ease and content. Perhaps this amusing incident will illustrate graphically some of these characteristics:—

Martha had received as a gift a very "grand" rooster which had won several blue ribbons at county fairs. She had petted him for some eight years, refusing to part with him, until he had arrived at the doddering stage and because of feebleness, he would stagger, brace himself, again totter with a queer questioning, half startled look in his eyes, sometimes gaining his equilibrium only after he had found the welcome support of the fence or building. Mother and I, acting as self appointed humane agents, proceeded to the business of surreptitiously putting the old fellow out of his all too evident distress. When stripped of his gorgeous, shining plumage, he looked much as quite ordinary poultry does, so we placed him over the fire to cook. Simultaneously with Martha's discovery that her rooster was missing came the fragrant, tell tale odor of cooking chicken from mother's kitchen. When convinced of our guilt, Martha confessed her satisfaction that he was "out of his misery," but she protested rather accusingly that she had "never intended him to be eaten like an ordinary rooster." It was too late to conceal or deny our intentions so we continued the cooking process for two days, yet he failed to yield to the sharpest knife. On the third day we tried roasting, and once he was in the oven, we proceeded to forget until a black cloud of smoke issued as a reminder. We hurriedly carried the smoking mess to the garden, where, reposing in the best family roasting pan, he was given a fitting burial. My sister's



wish was thus oddly enough granted—that her prize rooster should not “be eaten like an ordinary bird.”

In spite of Martha's shyness and reticence, one can always depend upon her for good sound advice when it is sought and she is then frank and outspoken even to the point of hurting for the sake of healing. She is practical, with plenty of common sense and good judgment. She is generous yet frugal and thrifty, not given to display, although fortune has blessed them materially. One would say that she possesses a gift for wholesome economy and a wise discrimination in spending.

One need scarcely be reminded that home and her family are her paramount concern. Whatever surplus time or energy she has to expend is dedicated to her church and to Cayadutta Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, of which she has been a member for many years. She is an active member of St. James' Lutheran Church having been among the first to be confirmed directly after the church was organized, and during the earlier years she was a member of the choir.

Her kindness and interest extend beyond her family circle for she is a friendly, gracious neighbor, a staunch, loyal friend doing nameless kindly, helpful deeds in her characteristically quiet way. She is generous to the needy whose misfortunes distress her intensely. Her quietly spoken sympathy brightens the path for many less fortunate than she.

She opened her house freely to our mother after father's death, sacrificing her own convenience at times, laying aside her own plans to give her devoted attention to the comfort and happiness of her mother. Her endless patience, her calm indulgence of even the slightest whims or wishes of the aged parent is a marvel to all who have witnessed these enviable traits. Quiet devotion to those who need her, seeing her duty and doing it faithfully and ungrudgingly—these stand out as the keynote of her unassuming life.

In appearance Martha is short, very slender, dainty with delicate features, a somewhat pallid skin which accentuates her frail body. To tip the scales at 100 pounds has always been an accomplishment for Martha. She has blue eyes and brown hair streaked with grey which at one time hung below her waist, provoking admiration and envy wherever she went. She has a sweet pleasant expression that radiates from hidden sources within.

Frank Arthur Patten, Martha's husband, was born in Yeovil, Somerset, England on April 18, 1875, the son of William Henry Patten and Kate Horsey Patten. Shortly after his birth, the family took up their residence in Bournemouth, England from which place they sailed for America in 1884.

The father was a leather finisher and glove cutter by trade as well as a professional musician having travelled in various parts of Europe in that capacity. To the very hour of his sudden death in August, 1905, he was tenor soloist of more than ordinary ability.

well known also as a director of choirs, choral societies and bands both in England and in his adopted city of Gloversville. The mother died in 1890 scarcely five years after their arrival in America.

The father taught the sons the trade of leather finisher and also trained them early in music. Until his marriage Frank was employed as a glove finisher, but in 1900 he entered my father's grocery store as a partner and upon father's retirement, he purchased the business which he conducted until 1919 when he became interested in forming the Liberty Leather Dressing Company on Burr street. He is president, treasurer and general manager of the business which has grown to be one of the largest and most flourishing leather concerns in Fulton county and occupies a commanding place in the leather trade of the United States.

Frank is energetic, resourceful, clear-minded, aggressive—a "go-getter"—persevering, undaunted in the face of tremendous obstacles, definite in his purposes with a real genius for business, for leadership and for management. He has unusual executive ability which has found expression at times in civic service. He was Mayor of Gloversville in 1922 and 1923 and has occupied other political offices.

He has a keen sense of fitness and foresight as well as being an excellent judge of human nature. He enjoys social contacts, likes people, is sought much for advice and counsel by young and old, for he is known for his exemplary habits, his integrity and fairness in business and in private living. He is most generous, soft-hearted, but never to the point of encouraging shiftlessness or needless dependence in others.

Frank is positive in his opinions, quick in temper, impulsive, yet he owes much of his success in life to this very trait of making quick but accurate decisions which more conservative folk would deem rash undertakings. If, at times, his excess of energy and enthusiasm leaps almost beyond his physical capacity to withstand, he has found in his vigilant wife the proper restraining influence—the balance wheel—that holds his ambitious, wholesome personality within reasonable bounds.

Like his father, Frank was identified when younger with the musical life of Gloversville as tenor soloist and director of choirs, particularly that of St. James' Lutheran Church which he directed for many years. He has used his talent largely for his own pleasure although he has a profound knowledge of music and a keen appreciation of the classic. He is literary in his tastes as well, an inveterate reader, a good conversationalist and at ease as a public speaker.

He holds membership in the Eccentric Club, the Kiwanis Club, the Chamber of Commerce of which he has been president. He is a 32nd Degree Mason being a member of the Gloversville Lodge, No. 429, F. & A. M. of which he is a Past Master. He was honored by



being selected as a District Deputy. He is vice president of the City National Bank.

"The Biographical History of New York State" contains a personality sketch of Frank from which I quote this brief summary: "Mr. Patten is generously endowed with those characteristics which make for leadership and that he has employed his talents wisely and well both in promoting his own business interests and in advancing the welfare of the city will be evident to all who read this brief biographical sketch of his career."

In appearance he is blonde, erect, tall and walks with quick step. He conveys the impression of alertness for whatever lies ahead.

Children:

Two children, a daughter and a son, died at birth.

GEORGE LENZ, M. D.; F. A. C. S. (1875—)

### THIRD GENERATION

George, son of Henry Lenz and Margaret Kinkle Lenz, was born at the Stone Arabia cheese factory on October 1, 1875.

At the early age of four years he began attendance at the district school, and throughout his life, he has been the faithful, interested, painstaking scholar.

If space permitted me to record as intimately and completely as my heart prompts the story of my brother's well rounded, thoroughly useful life, it would first take me back to many cherished incidents of our childhood as we roamed the woods and fields in care-free companionship.

How bashful, self-conscious, undemonstrative he was in public, yet within he was all eagerness and energy. To me, five years his junior, he seemed such a brave protector, for with George by my side we were allowed almost unlimited freedom to venture farther and farther afield. It is strangely interesting that these vivid childhood experiences and impressions created in me an admiration and confidence which has persisted through the years leaving a comfortable feeling of security that George will never fail to protect me and mine. Nor am I alone in this trust in him. Others have many times avowed that, not alone as their physician in times of illness, but as a friend and counsellor in sorrows and anxieties of life, they are confident that George will come to them—some how he will find a way, a satisfactory solution, and all will be well. Somehow he does come to point the way to brighter, rosier skies, for he spends himself immeasurably to bring comfort and happiness to others.

He was such an honest, truthful, dependable boy with an alert, inquiring mind and a quiet, determined ambition to achieve, yet, his shy reserve and his habitual tendency to withdraw to the background were handicaps which required many years of persistent



GEORGE LENZ, M. D., F. A. C. S.



effort to overcome. Likewise a fear that was almost an obsession, lest he offend or wound the feelings of others caused him many an hour of secret suffering. He has never been wholly successful in eradicating this trait from his conscientious mind, for despite his wide experience, he is intensely disturbed if any words, acts or motives of his have been misconstrued and have caused others to be sorrowful or heavy hearted. He is intensely sensitive to criticism which drives him to a forbearing silence. In spite of the well merited honors that the years have brought to him, he still retains that



#### CHILDREN OF DR. AND MRS. GEORGE LENZ

Left to right—Dr. Robert K. Lenz, Edith Lenz Marble, Henry H. Lenz, George B. Lenz

same delightfully boyish embarrassment when his own achievements are openly discussed.

He fitted so quietly and harmoniously into the home life deserving few rebukes, doing his allotted duties—his “chores”—regularly and conscientiously with no complaints or blustering assertiveness that I have no doubt he was mightily imposed upon because of this very acquiescent attitude. It is, therefore, not surprising that he grew to manhood a congenial companion, an indulgent husband and father with the happiness of others over-shadowing his own particular desires or comforts. He was little more than 13 years of age when the family moved to Gloversville where he entered the High School, and his studious mind was given broader facilities for development. How-

ever, he had so diligently applied himself to his studies at the imperfectly taught country schools that three years later—at the age of 16 years—he was graduated from the High School with the highest honors of valedictorian of the 1892 class. He returned for two years of post-graduate work and then secured a license to teach. He taught for one year at Perth, N. Y. and also for one year at the Phelps street district, Gloversville, entering the Albany Medical College in October, 1897.

Mother was strongly prejudiced against his studying medicine, for she had her heart set on having him enter the ministry. Another influence pulling him away from medicine was the beloved old pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, Rev. Edgar E. Whetstone, a bachelor who had loved George as he might have his own son. George had always been a devout worker in the church with that same conscientious attention to details, dependability and sincerity that characterized him in all things. The old man dreamed his dreams of having George succeed him some day in the same pulpit, and as he dreamed he painted those dreams in many brilliant colors. Fortunately, the white haired old saint passed to a well earned reward at the psychological time in George's life thus removing a kindly, though compelling influence. There still remained his soft hearted dread of displeasing and hurting mother. However, at the end of his two years as school master, he quietly announced his intention of entering Albany Medical College from which he was graduated on May 2, 1900 as valedictorian of a class of twenty-nine students, winning at the same time a prize for scholarship. He immediately began the practice of his profession at 307 North Main street, Gloversville at the age of 25 years, and many were the experiments with his personal appearance to make himself look older and very experienced. However from the very beginning, the public honored George with their confidence, for his reputation for consistent, faithful scholarship, his reliability and integrity had been fully established from boyhood. His Fellowship in The American College of Surgeons bears witness that he has risen beyond local success to a high place in the profession of Medicine and Surgery. He is rated by even Metropolitan contemporaries as among the foremost physicians and surgeons in New York State. He is a member of Nu Sigma Nu Fraternity.

On May 21, 1902 he was married to Annie Borton Grant. On May 1, 1908 he purchased the residence at 68 Bleecker street, removing his family there since it was more conveniently located for his ever growing practice. He maintains his offices there while the family now reside at 15 North Parkway where in 1934 the son Henry, an architect and contractor, supervised the building of an attractive residence.

The ensuing brief extract is selected from a biographical sketch of him which appears in "The Mohawk Valley—A Gateway to the



West," an historical volume containing biographies of distinguished personalities of that region:—

"In spite of the many demands made upon his time and energy by his profession, Dr. Lenz is able to take a prominent part in the club and social life of the city. In Masonry he has attained the rank of Noble of the Mystic Shrine belonging to Cypress Temple, Albany, N. Y. He is likewise affiliated with the Gloversville Benevolent Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Eccentric and Kiwanis Clubs. He is a director of the Y. M. C. A. and of Sir William Johnson Country Club. He has at various times served as President of Staff at the Nathan Littauer Hospital, and is ever ready to give counsel and valuable time to the welfare and interests of the hospital. By study and research he keeps well informed as to the latest developments in his branch of Medical Science, and through membership in the American College of Surgeons, the New York State and Fulton County Medical Associations comes regularly in contact with his fellow colleagues. He, with his family, are members of St. James' Lutheran Church where he has served as teacher of the Men's Bible Class and is a moving spirit in the "Brotherhood"—a social organization for the men."

One cannot conceive of my brother as professionally callous or indifferent to suffering. He is intensely conscious that, each moment of the day, life or death hang upon the correctness of his decisions and the strength and accuracy of his notably deft, sensitive fingers so that his moods are governed, for the most part, by the degree of concern he feels for his patients. Unfortunately he received from mother by inheritance a generous aptitude for worry which makes it impossible for him to lightly dismiss his professional responsibilities with the closing of the hospital door. Likewise he has preserved throughout his successful career a genuine sympathy for all suffering, distress or misfortune. His open handed yet quiet generosity, his public spirit, the fineness of his citizenship, his unfailing readiness to be of service in every helpful enterprise have contributed immeasurably to the progress and the cumulative betterment of the City of Gloversville, extending beyond to County and State. Behind the City Play Grounds, the once flourishing and much needed Tuberculosis Hospital, the Nurses' Home and other valuable projects lie his silent influence and unfailing support.

As a husband and father he is most indulgent and lavish in caring for the material comforts of the family collectively and individually. Three stalwart sons and a daughter came to bless their home.

When these children were young, he wished them to have a taste of rural life and to be surrounded by the simple, care free atmosphere such as he enjoyed in Stone Arabia in his own childhood. He, accordingly purchased a farm at the corner of Phelps street, on the Mayfield road, near Gloversville, N. Y., where, for all the world like brown little gypsies, the children romped throughout the sum-

mer vacations absorbing health and happiness with the dews, the rains and the sunshine while learning to love and understand nature and all of earth's interesting little wild inhabitants. This farm grew in proportions to five farms operated as one large Model Dairy establishment with a modern creamery to supply pure milk to the hospital and nurseries of the city. It was a worthy, and characteristically unselfish motive, but the enormous amount of energy and patience entailed in supervising the operation of so large an undertaking, made it necessary for him to abandon this "hobby" after some 10 years of experimentation and many anxieties that were undermining his health. He sold the farms one at a time, reserving a portion of the land where he erected a very comfortable summer home which they still occupy at intervals in the summer months.

Life for him has ever been so full of grave things needing to be done that he has been denied much of the family life which he so ardently craves. Fond of travel by land or sea, in this manner he at times contrives a way to uninterrupted companionship with his wife and children. In 1925, in company with his three sons, he toured Europe, and the joy of this daily association still occupies a memorable and wholly unique place in the hearts of each. In 1929 he and his wife again sailed for Europe where he visited hospitals and clinics. Now and again a cruise to the Tropics with some member of the family or a drive to some sea side nest brings comradeship, rest and refreshment of body, mind and spirit.

His devotion to our mother, widowed more than 17 years ago and nearing 90 years, is one of the high lights of his character. Daily he finds the time to call, if only for a moment, to assure himself of her comfort and health. In this he is encouraged and sincerely seconded by his wife who is equally solicitous, kind and thoughtful of mother.

In appearance George is of medium height, firmly built, clean cut, with the strong, purposeful face and bearing of the scholar and thinker. He has hazel eyes that fit well with his clear olive skin and dark brown hair that is entirely free of even a hint of grayness. He is quick and energetic in his movements, perceptibly at a high tension, at times approaching irritableness—a reaction from the calm cool manner and poised strength for which he is famed in the operating room. Ordinarily his manner is mild with an agreeable frankness and a quaint humor that breaks out at unexpected moments. He is ardent and enthusiastic whether at work or play. one who receives far more joy from giving than from receiving.

He has faults that undoubtedly prove annoying to some, as all of us have, yet his imperfections amuse me, for they have always seemed virtues over-stressed—virtues toppling over from sheer overweight.

The penetrating warmth, sincerity and friendliness of his manner, the cheer, the confidence he radiates, the charm of his modesty and self-effacement will always be remembered and cherished by those



whose lives he daily touches and blesses professionally and socially.

No man, whose entire life has been dedicated to ministering to his fellow men, has more unostentatiously, more conscientiously, more faithfully filled such an important niche in human needs.

Annie Borton Grant, wife of Dr. George Lenz, was born at Stafford, England on April 18, 1872. Her parents were the Rev. James Grant, a native of Scotland and Ellen P. Brown Grant of English descent.

When Annie was a year old the family migrated to Canada where for 39 years her father held various pastorates. They resided at Ingersoll, Ontario, Canada at the time of Annie's marriage on May 21, 1902. The ceremony was performed by her father assisted by her brother, the Rev. Thomas Grant and the pastor of the church.

Previous to her marriage, she was a trained nurse by profession, and for some time acted as supervisor of nurses at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Maryland. Later she engaged in private nursing with her residence established at Albany, N. Y.

She is an exceptional mother for she is endowed with more than ordinary maternal tendencies, affection and solicitude which finds expression in innumerable acts of understanding kindness for her family in their work or in their recreation. She too is very liberal in her giving and many local projects and organizations enlist her active support. She has served as president of the Young Woman's Christian Association and is identified with the social and club life of the city being a member of the Country Club and the Every Monday Literary Club.

She is tall, erect, well proportioned, very attractive in appearance, fair of skin with clean cut features, blue eyes and waving medium brown hair that has hints of dull copper in its glossy, well kept beauty. Orderliness, neatness and good taste are exemplified in her person and in her home. She is for the most part calm, patient and reserved with occasional dashes of temper, makes friendships slowly and discreetly but as a friend she is staunch and sincere. For many years sorrow and anxiety walked ever close beside her in the loss of practically her entire family in Canada. At such times she carried her grief in silence, and seemed to those who did not understand, somewhat aloof and constrained in her manner, even moody or melancholy.

She is active in the affairs of St. James' Lutheran Church.

Children:

Edith Grant Lenz (Mrs. Clarence Marble.)

Henry Howard Lenz.

George Borton Lenz.

Robert Kinkle Lenz, M. D.

## EDITH GRANT LENZ (1903—)

*(Mrs. Clarence Marble)*

## FOURTH GENERATION

Edith Grant, daughter of Dr. George Lenz and Annie Grant Lenz, was born at 307 North Main street, Gloversville, N. Y. on February 21, 1903.

Following her graduation from Gloversville High School, she attended Wells College at Aurora, N. Y. and later took a course in Household Arts at the Rochester Mechanics Institute. In 1923 she sailed on a Mediterranean cruise returning by way of Europe where she visited the place of her mother's birth and made the acquaintance of many family relatives.

On April 12, 1924 she was married at her parents' home, 68 Bleecker street to Clarence Marble of Rochester, N. Y. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. William Barclay, pastor of St. James' Lutheran Church. Clarence is the son of Jesse Marble and Irene Shannon Marble.

He is a statistical engineer employed by the Rochester Telephone Company. In appearance he is over six feet in height, slender with large blue eyes, fair skin and blonde hair. He is extremely ambitious, capable and energetic, athletic and a lover of out door life.

As a growing girl, Edith was strong, healthy and athletic in her tastes—a genuine out of door girl. At tennis, in the swimming pool, canoeing, or on horseback she was not easily surpassed by her three sturdy brothers nor later by her equally athletic husband. However, several severe illnesses have robbed her of much of her energy and have forced her into a less ambitious program outside her home keeping.

They resided in Rochester for several years and then purchased a roomy, fine country home and several acres of land in the village of Lima, near Rochester, where they still reside.

Edith is of medium height, slender, very attractive from girlhood, with clear olive skin, expressive large gray eyes and brown waving hair. She is quick in speech, vivacious in manner, soft voiced and somewhat reserved yet friendly and gracious. She prefers the simpler modes of dress to the frills and furbelows, which taste is reflected in her home surroundings for she requires of them not just beauty but comfort, convenience and usefulness. She is endowed with good judgment, plenty of good common sense, is thrifty and energetic doing her routine duties so quietly and easily that she creates an atmosphere of restfulness and refreshing calm.

One daughter, Jean. Anne, was born to them on October 29, 1925. As a mother, Edith approaches the ideal, for few children have been



reared more sensibly or wisely where there is every opportunity to lavish and to spoil an only child.

Children:

Jean Anne Marble.

JEAN ANNE MARBLE (1925—)  
FIFTH GENERATION

Jean Anne, daughter of Edith Lenz Marble and Clarence Marble, was born at Rochester, N. Y. on October 29, 1925.



Jean Ann Marble

She is a very sweet, beautiful child possessing large, expressive blue eyes set in a delicate, refined face which leads one instinctively to think "Sweet as the primrose peeps beneath the thorn." She is shy and modest, receives and deserves few reprimands, for she seems to observe what is proper to do at all times. She is industrious, bright in school, practical and sensible far beyond her years, due perhaps, in part to the close companionship with her parents and their painstaking training.

She has a winning, outstanding personality that attracts and holds—a personality that will carry her far in life and brighten the way for others as she passes through. It is safe to predict that in

the very near future, many young admirers will be singing in their hearts—if not with their lips—that lovely old ballad, “I Dream of Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair,” for Jean’s beauty and charm are from within and will be a part of her as long as she lives.

#### HENRY HOWARD LENZ (1904—)

##### FOURTH GENERATION

Henry Howard, son of Dr. George Lenz and Annie Grant Lenz, was born at 307 North Main street, Gloversville, N. Y. on November 20, 1904. He was an excellent student from boyhood, and was graduated from Gloversville High School at the age of 16 years. At 17 he entered Cornell University where he was active in athletics, was chosen to row on the crew and until his graduation in 1925, he preserved his excellent record for scholarship.

During the summer of 1925 he, with his father and two brothers, toured Europe and in the autumn he took a course in Banking and Business Administration in New York City where he was afterwards employed for several months. He secured a position as a civil engineer in Chattanooga, Tennessee but the southern climate soon made inroads upon his health, he having developed digestive disturbances like so many others of our branch of the family. He returned to Gloversville and by degrees his health was completely restored.

For several years he was employed by Morrell Vroman, City Engineer, who also conducted a private architectural and contracting business and Henry had supervision of many important building projects and public works.

In 1932 he resigned his position to engage in business for himself in Gloversville. His splendid success has been built quietly and steadily upon the firm foundation of honest dealing, excellent workmanship, good taste and judgment in architecture as well as fairness with the crew of workmen in his employ.

Henry has a great love for the out of doors, and in addition to his ever growing contracting business, he owns and supervises the operation of a stock farm, north of the city. He is an enthusiastic horseman for he finds rest and relaxation in brisk rides in the saddle through the woody roads that lead to and from his country house.

Always a lover of the sea and of strange lands, he has travelled extensively having several times visited Europe, the West Indies, South America and likewise a cruise that included most of the important countries of the world. It goes without saying that he is an interesting conversationalist and an avid reader of the best of literature, for he is studious, contemplative and serious by nature.

Henry is more than six feet in height, well proportioned, athletic and a good sportsman. He has large expressive dark eyes that are more often serious than merry, a clear olive skin and dark brown hair. He is at times very jolly and has a fine sense of humor, but



he is quite as often meditatively silent as though given to melancholy musings. He is extremely sensitive, rather quick in temper, has a pleasing voice with a brisk directness of speech that comes readily from a well informed mind. He is positive in argument with well considered opinions and convictions that are not easily overthrown.

He is identified with Masonry being a member of Gloversville Lodge and the Shrine. He is a member of the Country Club and of the Theta Delta Chi Fraternity. He is a member of St. James' Lutheran Church.

Henry is unmarried and resides with his parents at 15 North Parkway.

#### GEORGE BORTON LENZ (1906—) FOURTH GENERATION

George Borton, son of Dr. George Lenz and Annie Grant Lenz, was born at 307 North Main street, Gloversville, N. Y. on May 8, 1906.

Following the completion of his studies at the Gloversville High School he entered Hamilton College, graduating in the class of 1926. He then entered Bryant Stratton School of Business Administration in Boston, graduating in 1928.

By way of prospecting for business opportunities, George set sail for the West Indies and South America and was successful in securing a position as accountant with the United Fruit Company at Honduras, Central America where he remained for three years.

He returned to Gloversville for a leave of absence and resigned his position to accept that of official auditor with the Singer Sewing Machine Company with headquarters at Buenos Aires, South America. In the performance of his duties, it was necessary to travel throughout the entire State of Argentine, and many of the remote places were accessible only on horse back or even mule back, through dense forests and over narrow, rough trails. This primitive life appealed strongly to his high spirited, venturesome temperament, for he is a lover of nature and a good sportsman. Well over six feet in height, slender, lithe, strong and erect, he radiates vigor, energy, eagerness and enthusiasm like a happy, care free child. This exuberance of spirit and spontaniety is delightfully refreshing, for his personality seems habitually to bubble with sunny gaiety. He is impetuous, ardent, affectionate, honest and in spite of his venturesome nature, he is reliable and trustworthy, resourceful and capable in business.

He is not at all studious, for most of his wisdom has come from the "School of Experience" and close observation. He is mentally alert, discerning, quick of speech and manner with a ready wit that is extremely amusing. He may be called a past master of mimicry and drollery that is entirely free of all malicious intent.

for he is so soft hearted and kindly that he would never intentionally wound another.

He is robust and physically fit in every way. His large, very blue amused eyes set in a round, boyish fair skinned face, topped with straight light hair, furnish the completing details of a physical ensemble that bespeaks a wholesome, sincere, lovable, stimulating personality.

George has travelled widely. His first visit to Europe was made in company with his father and two brothers in 1925. He has several times touched Europe's shores in various countries and has visited many of the Tropical countries both overland and by sea. He is an interesting, entertaining conversationalist punctuating his remarks with vivid experiences usually of a humorous nature.

In 1933 he returned to Gloversville for a leave of absence and was married to Catherine Veghte Ireland of Johnstown, N. Y., daughter of Stuart Ireland (deceased) and Isabelle Stanton Ireland (deceased.) On the maternal side, Catherine is related to Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the distinguished feminist and Women's Suffrage pioneer.

The wedding took place on August 10, 1933 at the United Presbyterian Church in Johnstown, the clergyman officiating being the Rev. James Hood. It was a picturesque wedding for a summer day since the bridegroom and men of the bridal party were clad in cool white linen suits with brown ties carrying out in excellent proportion the brown color scheme of the accessories worn by the bride's attendants.

The bride and bridegroom sailed on the evening of their marriage for their home in South America.

Catherine was born on December 22, 1912 at Johnstown, N. Y. where she was educated and later she attended Abbott Academy at Andover, Mass. She is an accomplished pianist and pipe organist. In appearance she is dainty, charming and attractive.

In 1935 they returned to Johnstown where George became associated with the Ireland Chemical Company. They purchased a home on William street and became active in the social, athletic and fraternal life of both Johnstown and Gloversville.

In 1937 George severed his connections with the Ireland Chemical Company and again accepted a position with the Singer Sewing Machine Company. They reside at Bogota, Colombia, South America.

George is a member of Psi U Fraternity, of the Gloversville Blue Lodge of Masons and St. James Lutheran Church.

No children have been born to them.

#### ROBERT KINKLE LENZ, M. D. (1909—)

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Robert Kinkle, son of Dr. George Lenz and Annie Grant Lenz,



was born at 68 Bleecker street, Gloversville, N. Y. on July 7, 1909.

Robert was a shy reserved lad, as his father had been in his boyhood, and he accordingly had many similar handicaps to meet daily as he left the home circle to attend upon the youthful business of school life.

Following his graduation from Gloversville High School, he attended Union College at Schenectady for one year, transferring to Cornell University where he was graduated in the class of 1931.

He was dangerously ill of influenza so that he remained at home for one year to regain his health before entering the Albany Medical College in the autumn of 1932. He is a member of the class of 1936 and has been a faithful student with excellent scholarship.

Like his brothers, Robert is over six feet in height, erect and dignified in bearing, refined in appearance with fair skin, large deep blue eyes that look steadily and calmly at life, a quiet, ready, kindly smile for everyone. He is slow to anger, quiet voiced and sparing of speech, yet frank and cordial when he engages in conversation. One instinctively feels that Robert enjoys listening to the thoughts and opinions of others more than expounding his own. He is slow and deliberate in his manner, mild, affable, and neither gay nor somber in mood. One would be somewhat astonished to hear Robert go in raptures and equally so to observe him sink heavily and abruptly into despair. A well tempered reserve and an unstudied poise provides for him an habitual unobtrusive, serene bearing—a courtliness of manner that proclaims him clean and upright through and through—the master of himself in all situations.

He is conservative in appetites, tastes and dress, inclined to keep his own counsel, holds quietly and staunchly to his opinions and convictions without argument or show of aggression and accepts suggestions or advice in the same gracious manner. Likewise in his selection of associates and friends he is wisely discriminating without parading his prejudices or partialities, for rudeness has no place in his well ordered, well balanced personality. He is well liked in the social and fraternal circles in which he is accustomed to move.

A distinct, definite understanding of his objectives, leads Robert to approach each required task, however difficult, distasteful or irksome, with undisturbed earnestness and unfaltering assurance. His easy adaptability and his application to the actual practical work in medicine, gained during the summer of 1935 while interne in the Rochester City Hospital, gives promise that he will reproduce in his own medical career much of the carefulness of judgment, the wisdom, the conscientious attention to duty in every minute detail that characterizes the splendid achievement of his distinguished father.

Robert finds a decided pleasure in travel by land or sea. In 1925 he spent several weeks in Europe in company with his father and brothers, and has visited the Tropics and other points of interest in this country. He is a member of Gloversville Lodge of Masons, St.

James' Lutheran Church, Theta Delta Chi Fraternity and of the Country Club. He resides at home.

### ADDITION

Since the above was written, Robert was graduated from the Albany Medical College on June 8, 1936 receiving his degree of M. D. His scholastic record was very high and he was awarded the Daggett Trust prize for maintaining the best department. There were 25 members in the class and this was the 105th Commencement. He is serving as interne in Ellis Hospital, Schenectady.

On June 30, 1937 he completed his year of internship at Ellis Hospital and on September 1st he will begin the practice of medicine in Gloversville, N. Y.

On August 14, 1937, Dr. Robert K. Lenz was married to Catherine Isabella Christie at Union College Chapel, Schenectady. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Arthur K. Blase.

Catherine is the daughter of Harry Christie (deceased) and Elizabeth Keith Christie of Schenectady both of whom were born in Scotland and came to America when children. Catherine was born on September 6, 1911 at Kingston, N. Y., received her education there graduating from the High School after which she entered Ellis Hospital, Schenectady, to train for nursing. As a student nurse she ranked high in keen attention to her duties and in faithfulness. As a registered nurse in private duty, her reputation for efficiency, reliability, sympathetic understanding of her patients, is outstanding.

She is tall, slender, fair of skin with brown hair, gray-blue eyes. She has a sweet, open, honest expression—a face to trust and remember. With this brief description of her personal appearance, one may readily visualize her as a bride—clad in a white satin wedding gown with long train—walking gracefully down the aisle on the arm of her brother and ascending the several marble steps to the chancel, as Robert, smiling and with his accustomed poise and calm bearing, walked to meet her for the ceremony. Throughout the ceremony, her train fell in soft shining folds upon the marble steps. The entire setting was one of simplicity and beauty that few present will ever forget.

ELLA ELIZABETH LENZ (1880—)  
(*Mrs. Albert William Patten*)

### THIRD GENERATION

Ella Elizabeth (christened Ellen but always called Ella) is the youngest child of Henry Karl Lenz and Margaret Kinkle Lenz and



was born at the Stone Arabia cheese factory on February 27, 1880. A year later the family moved to the newly built house across the road from the "Cold Springs" cheese factory at Stone Arabia where they resided until the migration to Gloversville some eight years later.

Since the compiler of these records is this same Ella Elizabeth Lenz, it gives to me the obvious privilege of writing my autobiography as glamorously and as completely as I choose. Yet how very little we know of interest to relate of ourselves other than to perhaps mention the channels through which our energies find release or expression—energies that are born of our thought, ideals, aspirations, dreams and hopes! These we consciously or unconsciously set in motion with the legitimate desire that we may eventually fill a place of usefulness in life, and in some small measure, make radiantly blessed a particular spot in the world. Some one has aptly expressed this thought in these beautiful lines: "We have not lived in vain if any one can say of us, 'I never think of you without thanking God.' " The secret of thus filling a remembered place is to have written one's life story in living letters upon the hearts of our fellow men.

My mother transmitted to me a goodly portion of her ambition, her vibrant energy, and a genuine appreciation of the importance of time in the scheme of things so that when I had arrived at the age of nine months, it had already impressed itself upon me that lying in a cradle was much too wasteful and dull a manner in which to be attending to the intricate business of living. Accordingly I immediately set out upon my own firm little legs to explore Life's novel, interesting ways, and as I scampered around I observed much, asked innumerable questions and chattered most fluently. I dare say I did a fairly thorough job of keeping things "on the move," for my maternal grandmother, who had been a member of our household for more than 10 years before my birth, was wont to say that I gave her far more trouble than the other four children combined. The only recollection I have of her having reversed this opinion was once when all five of us children developed the measles at the same time. Being a babe in the cradle, I was hailed as the least assertive and best behaved of all under the distressing conditions.

Grandmother was a short, well rounded, jolly faced woman with snow white hair, always neatly covered with a black lace cap. Unfortunately paralysis of the vocal chords, years before, had made it impossible for her to speak above a whisper so that she could not call to me, and I undoubtedly supplied for her much unsolicited exercise in her efforts to locate me in my nimble exploits. I fancy she was given a decided respite when at the age of four years, I insistently and persistently joined the group who were attending school, and regardless of weather, daily walked the two miles to the "little red school house." From then until my marriage at the age of 21 years, my life was spent in the class room, the last two years as a teacher.

From father I inherited an insatiable love of learning and such a craving and regard for books that even as a small child I cherished and carefully treated all books whether my own or the property of another. I was a serious, eager student, reaching beyond the daily assignments for even more information. As I grow older, this craving for knowledge urges ever more and more insistently.

I was graduated from the Gloversville High School in 1898 and from the Johnstown Teachers' Training School in 1899. In 1900 I taught school at the little summer village of Peek's Park and the following year at Hale's Mills, east of Gloversville.

On September 11, 1901, I became the wife of Albert William Patten, brother of my sister's husband.

From my mother I seem to have received too a talent for leadership and organization otherwise it would not so early in life have been developed and discovered by others. At the age of 15 years I was given the responsibility of teaching a Sunday School class of lively boys two years my junior and I have been actively identified with that type of church work ever since. For more than 24 years I have been the teacher of the Dorcas Bible class of South Congregational Church, Pittsfield, which we organized with only six young women and it now numbers more than 100. These young women, now wives and mothers, are an active power in the church and community.

A portion of this group organized in 1927 for the study of missions and is rendering practical service for several mission stations at home and abroad. This group has named itself for the founder, "The Ella Lenz Patten Missionary Society."

In literary circles my interests center in the Ladies' Reading Club, organized in 1894, of which I have three times been president. For some 16 years, I have served as the president of the Fortnightly Club of about 250 members. I hold membership in the Wednesday Morning Club, one of the most unique literary clubs in the world, for since its organization 58 years ago, it has had but one president, Miss Anna L. Dawes who at the age of 86 years still presides with amazing ability and cleverness.

In fraternal circles I have for 28 years been identified with the Order of the Eastern Star and have the title of Past Matron of Collina Chapter, No. 69 of Pittsfield.

With these interests and responsibilities to supplement the home duties, life for me is ever fresh, full, intriguing. Experience has calmed impatience, excessive ardor and over-expectancy into an understanding patience and a quiet waiting for that "invisible pay check" we call results.

Home—the home atmosphere—and hospitality are the first concern of my life, yet I am extremely fond of social life, for I like folks immensely and adapt myself readily to people of all types. I am not tied down to one line of thinking or activity nor do I cling



tenaciously to my own plans or ideas, since, fortunately I have the ability to mould myself quickly to all circumstances and to follow uncritically and harmoniously, the leadership of others. To me it is extremely fascinating to observe with unbiased mind, others evolve ideas—others work out their dreams.

Were it not for a keen sense of humor, a lively imagination and a temperament free from rancor—traits that in combination readily and invariably lift the weight of disheartening experiences, disillusionment and dark forebodings—it would be impossible for me to carry on activities outside the home so continuously and zealously. Haunting fear, apprehensions, the tendency to “borrow trouble”—characteristics of my younger days that were largely inherited—have given way with persistent, conscious effort on my part to a well balanced optimism, an abiding faith and a wholesome dependable philosophy of life, for one cannot teach others for some 40 years and remain impervious to the accumulated wisdom and great truths that have come down to us through the ages. So I am rarely discouraged, seldom lose heart, except momentarily, for I trust the future and anticipate with curious eagerness, each new day and the part it will play in the fascinating “Pageant of Life.”

It is undoubtedly superfluous to add that I am intensely practical, not fluctuating, moody, melancholy or impetuous. Until I have thought matters to a logical conclusion, I am inclined to move cautiously and slowly. I am not over-affected by externals that cannot be changed, although I like my surroundings to be comfortable and beautiful, orderly and harmonious, if possible, but they must be simple and artistic in their beauty. I am thrifty without parsimony, but I sometimes feel that I am not always wisely generous, for sympathy renders it very difficult for me at times to temper generosity with prudence when confronted by so much need, misfortune and suffering in others. It is impossible for me, consciously, to do slipshod work or to forsake a task once begun, so that I am meticulous in the performance of all duties and responsibilities, for I want an unbroken record for dependability and for doing a “job” right.

When I arrived at that auspicious middle period of life, facetiously called “the fair, fat and forty” stage, I failed to take on the traditional proportions, for from childhood, a capricious, domineering digestive apparatus has habitually reminded me to shun the allurements and pitfalls of over-indulgence in food that does not entirely meet with the approval of that imperious—though inefficient—“dictator.” Undoubtedly that is the chief reason why I am still slender and agile. I am tall, erect, with fair skin, gray eyes and medium brown hair that is slowly being sprinkled with the inevitable gray. Although I am not fretful or nervously inclined I give that impression because nature geared me to move and to speak briskly and energetically. I have occasional flares of temper which recede quickly and are speedily forgotten. I do not harbor

grievances neither do I bear injuries in silent martyrdom when such differences can so readily be adjusted by frank and genuine understanding with the offender. However, I am not aggressive or intolerant of the rights, opinions and judgment of others. Reserved, but not aloof, I give friendship with care as I expect to receive it from others. I require few intimate relationships and I keep largely to the home circle for counsel in private matters.

In enumerating the interests of my life thus far, I have reserved the greatest achievement to the end—that of being the contented wife of one of “nature’s noblemen,” and the mother of two beautiful daughters. The musical abilities and other accomplishments of these three bring to our fireside memorable, happy hours, and likewise give entertainment and pleasure to countless people over a wide area of the United States.

I became the wife of Albert William Patten on the evening of September 11, 1901 at the family home, 307 North Main street, Gloversville. Because of the serious illness of our own pastor, Rev. John J. Dominic, the ceremony was performed by our neighbor, the Rev. William Groat of North Main Street Methodist Church.

Albert was born in the beautiful seaside city of Bournemouth in the south of England, on May 23, 1879 and at the age of five years, with his parents, William Henry Patten and Kate Horsey Patten, sailed for America locating in Gloversville. He attended the local schools, but at the age of 13 years, he was obliged to leave school to assist his father in the maintenance of the family since a nationwide depression in business was in progress. Three years earlier—when he was barely 10 years old—his mother, with her new born daughter, passed suddenly out of the home leaving the bereft husband to care for seven small children, the eldest daughter 16 years of age. Albert became an errand boy in a glove factory, and in the meantime his father was teaching him the trade of glove finishing which he later followed for 12 years having risen to foreman of the department in various factories. Shortly after our marriage, he entered the clothing and haberdashery store of Mitchel and Thomas on North Main street which he afterwards purchased. After two years of indifferent success, due to the fact that there was too much competition for the size of the city, he disposed of the business and secured a position with J. R. Newman & Sons in Pittsfield, Mass. He began his duties on January 1, 1913 and the family joined him on April 8. He remained with the firm until April 1, 1930 when they, in turn, closed out their business for similar reasons. The following week he became identified with the C. H. Cutting Co. who in 1936 disposed of the business. He is now identified with Rosenfeld’s.

His slowness to anger, his tact and pleasant, amiable manner, his patient adaptability to all temperaments and surroundings, the courteous composure with which he endures the presence of people



who are distasteful or disagreeable to him are assets in his particular business, especially when so conspicuously combined with perseverance, determination and unswerving integrity.

Social by nature, he has found avenues for expression of this fondness for people in his membership in the Masonic fraternity. He has been raised to the 32nd degree and is a Past Master of Mystic Lodge of Pittsfield, which was organized 125 years ago. He is a Past Patron of Collina Chapter, No. 69, Order of the Eastern Star.

Circumstances forced him into the business world when Nature seems to have fashioned him for the life of a musician, for he is so obviously endowed with all those qualities that make him wholly at ease in such an environment, and he finds his choicest pleasures in association with people of similar tastes. Music is inbred in him—an inheritance of many generations—and even today Great Britain numbers among her finest musicians many of his kin folk. However his father, a splendid musician, was the immediate source of inspiration in creating in his children a love for music and in shaping and directing their tastes and understanding of the very finest products of every land. Music was given a place of outstanding importance in the family life. Each child was early instructed in singing and the playing of some instrument, so that in song or in the family orchestra, they were united in a common interest, a common bond.

From boyhood Albert gave promise of being the outstanding vocalist of the family and he likewise played the violin with secondary ability. Supplementing his father's watchful training was that received from regular study for many years with well known vocal instructors and continued intermittently to the present time. At the age of 11 years he became a soloist in Christ Episcopal Church choir, at 17 years he began his long career as tenor soloist of more than locally recognized ability, in choir, chorus, male quartette and as choir director. For many years he has been director of the music of the several Masonic bodies of Pittsfield and is soloist at the Congregational Church in Dalton, Mass., having previously served in that capacity for 13 years at the First Baptist Church in Pittsfield.

His pressing musical activities prevent his allying himself with literary activities but he enjoys good books and lectures although he lays no claim to being literary or scholarly. He speaks well in public with quite the same poise and ease as when singing. Although he is not athletic, he is very fond of out door life, for he is a lover of nature and when a lad spent many hours in the woods and fields learning the habits of small wild things, the call of the birds, the life span of the flowers. He was an expert swimmer and could also negotiate all manner of picturesque figures on ice skates.

Nature could have done little more for Albert in the way of lavishing upon him her gifts of physical fitness and perfection. From boyhood

he has been striking in appearance and as a middle aged man, he is still outstanding even in a group of prepossessing men folk. He is not quite six feet in height, well proportioned, erect, dignified in bearing with very dark sleek brown hair, now turning pleasingly gray, ruddy complexion, fine teeth, large, expressive brown eyes—kindly, soft, steady eyes—set in a calm good face that indicates instantly an honorable, straightforward man, instinctively and firmly anchored to the things that abide. He is genuinely religious and reverent having always been identified with the church through his musical contribution to the worship. He is a member of the South Congregational Church of Pittsfield.

Although Albert is fond of travel, he is essentially a home loving man, as his whole temperament suggests. As husband and father he is indulgent, thoughtful, generous, habitually unruffled, agreeable, a lover of harmony and contentment. He has a jovial, sunny disposition, a bubbling spontaneous wit coupled with a rare sense of humor that is wholly unexpected in one so dignified and sedate in bearing. He is fastidious in person and dress, neat and orderly in the home. He talks sparingly but is a friendly, companionable, sympathetic man. Since he lacks egotism, aggressiveness and assertiveness, he has always modestly underestimated his ability, otherwise his talents and personality would have carried him very far artistically and materially. In all relationships of life he stands high in the regard of his fellowmen—a man trusted, greatly admired and loved.

#### MARION ELIZABETH PATTEN (1903—)

*(Mrs. Alan Jerome Hoffmann)*

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Marion Elizabeth, daughter of Albert William Patten and Ella Lenz Patten, was born at 55 Sixth avenue (then called White street), Gloversville, N. Y., on September 19, 1903.

She attended the Gloversville grade schools until she was eight years of age when the family came to reside in Pittsfield, Mass. She was graduated from the Pittsfield High School in the class of 1921 with the highest honor, that of valedictorian of a class of more than 100 students. Her scholastic record was among the highest that had ever been recorded in the school's history. In October 1921 she entered the Institute of Musical Arts in New York City, then under the direction of the famous Damrosch brothers, now called the Juilliard School. In addition to her studies there she was trained privately in piano technic by Ernest Hutcheson, distinguished concert pianist and composer, now Dean of the Juilliard School.

She began her musical studies at the age of seven years at her own request, but she had long before demonstrated her sensitiveness



to music. It was so obviously inherited that when she was less than two years old we were proud to "show off" her precociousness—as so many doting young parents have the habit of doing. At such times my elderly aunt would shake her head sadly and slyly weep warning us that we would never raise the child for she was much too unnatural and angelic. Needless to say, once given an opportunity to study music, she progressed with phenomenal strides and played in her first "recital" of her teacher's classes only six months later—an event that will live in her memory so long as she lives because of



Helen Patten Hunter



Marion Patten Hoffmann

the very amusing incidents connected with it. Throughout her grammar and high school years she acted as accompanist for the orchestras and the glee clubs, also gave joint recitals with artists locally and in neighboring cities. At the age of 16 she had the experience of accompanying Reinald Werrenrath, (then at the peak of his career as Metropolitan baritone soloist) in his solo parts with the Choral Art Society of Pittsfield of which she was the accompanist. At the age of 14 years she had a class of pupils sometimes numbering as many as 12 whom she taught individually until she left for her studies in New York.

After 2 years of intensive study in New York she accepted a position as concert pianist and accompanist under the management of the

Swarthmore Chautauqua and for 4 years toured several sections of the country particularly the eastern and southern states. Later she acted in similar capacity with other concert companies or artists of all types. Her professional acquaintances and associations are extremely varied numbering interesting personalities of all nationalities from Russian Counts, Arabic Princes, Hindu and Persian singers to our own American artists and composers.

She was among the earlier musicians who, in the infancy of radio about 1923, helped to introduce music over the air, and was among the very first few groups to play over the newly opened station WOR—the Bamberger Store in Newark, N. J. The performers were given their car fare and some times dinner as payment. I recall what a thrilling moment it was in our lives when we heard for the first time, through the crude ear phones, the faint, distant tinkling of the keys as her deft fingers played the familiar pieces. Since that time she has played over several other stations noting each time the wonderful advance since her earlier experiences as a radio performer.

During her residence in New York city she has performed at many of the large auditoriums, concert halls, churches, hotels, schools and colleges. Wherever she has been heard she has delighted her audiences by her musicianship, the depth of understanding and feeling in her interpretation and her sweet, unspoiled manner which adds a distinct charm and restfulness to her performance that is always noted in the many press notices we have collected and cherished through the years.

Not only daily newspapers of various localities have frequently reviewed her performances favorably but also leading National Musical Journals. The ensuing brief extracts will show something of the degree of appreciation her work has commanded:

Musical Advance: "Miss Patten has remarkable talent and a future of great promise."

Musical America: "Throughout the concert the young artist played with finish, excellent tone and technique."

The New York Evening Mail: "Her playing shows her love for her work."

"Love for her work," that has been the secret of whatever success has been hers.

Memory for her is stored with happy experiences of her professional contacts, and her "Memory Book" too is well filled with choice souvenirs of every description including songs and poems dedicated to her and autographed by the writers.

During the summers of 1927 and 1928 Marion acted as Music Counsellor at Camp Ogontz, a girl's camp in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. She was awarded a trip to Montreal, Canada for being selected by the girls as one of the most popular Counsellors in camp.



On March 29, 1930 she became the wife of Alan Jerome Hoffmann of Richmond Hill, Long Island. The ceremony was performed in the Chapel of St. Bartholomew's Cathedral in New York City by the Rev. Dr. Robert Norwood, who had been associated with her as poet-lecturer for one year when she was pianist for the Swarthmore Company. The friendship thus begun in their professional association continued until his untimely death about a year after her marriage. During the ceremony he paused to pay a very touching tribute to Marion's beauty of character, which in its sincerity and poetic loveliness will assuredly remain enshrined in the hearts of these two forever.

Since her marriage Marion has continued her music professionally but she travels less extensively and for shorter periods of time. Most of her work centers in and about New York City or neighboring states. They reside in New York City.

In appearance Marion is blonde, tall, slender, attractive with a very pleasant, charming manner, a soft pleasing voice, a winning smile and a vivaciousness and enthusiasm that is infectious. She is affectionate, soft hearted, sympathetic and delights in doing little kindly deeds to surprise and please others. From childhood she has been mild in temper, very methodical and painstaking in her work or play, accurate, dependable. She is logical in her reasoning, practical and sensible, seeks advice, profits by suggestions and the experiences of others. Like her father, she is modest concerning her ability, never intrudes herself so that one finds her wholly unspoiled in spite of the publicity and admiration she has received since early childhood. She is not temperamental, but she is very sensitive to her environment which must be congenial and restful or she is irritated. However, such moods are infrequent and of short duration, for her sunny disposition and lively sense of humor dispel the provocation.

She manages her home wisely, is economical, thrifty and far sighted. Both she and her husband find pleasure in travel by land or sea. They have cruised to the Tropics and over the Great Lakes; travelled by land to many parts of the United States and Canada seeking wherever possible famous old battle fields, museums or art galleries. Marion is decidedly literary in her tastes as well as musical so that they find mutual joy and companionship in browsing among the libraries and book shops. The great city, which they call their home, is for them a glorious "treasure house" filled with every choice thing for cultural advancement and a full, happy, varied life. Marion is a member of South Congregational Church, Pittsfield, Mass., Alan of a church in Richmond Hill, Long Island, N. Y.

Her husband, Alan Jerome Hoffmann, was born at Brooklyn, N. Y. on December 13, 1906, the son of Ernest Frederick Hoffmann, a native of that city and Margaret Gretchen Wagner Hoffmann, born in Leipsig, Germany. Alan's maternal grandfather, Gustav Ernest

Wagner, was a native of Leipsig and although not directly related to Richard Wagner, the famous composer, was born in the same house in which the distinguished musician was born. The grandmother, Anna Amelia Thomas Wagner, had as one of her girlhood admirers a young man who wrote so many poems for her that they became irksome so that she purposely destroyed them in his presence. As if in prophecy he one day remarked, "Better keep those poems, some day they will be valuable." The family now regret that she did not value them more highly for he actually became one of Germany's very fine poets. She was personally acquainted with the well beloved Franz Liszt having heard him play in private homes as well as in public. She danced to the strains of the famous "Blue Danube" Waltz when Johann Strauss, the composer, himself directed the orchestra.

Alan's paternal grandparents were Ernest William Hoffmann and Alma Wilhelmina Irmsher Hoffmann who migrated to Brooklyn from some where in Germany.

Some years after their marriage Alan's parents took up their residence at Richmond Hill, Long Island. Alan was graduated from the local high school in the class of 1925 and entered Brown University, Providence, R. I. in the autumn. Having been identified with Camp Anaconda in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania for five years as physical director, it seemed best to the family that he continue in that line of work, so in 1926 he transferred to the Savage School of Physical Education in New York City, graduating in the class of 1929. He continued his work as physical director of Camp Anaconda for four years longer and then accepted a position in the New York office of the Shell Union Oil Co. He is now physical director of "Grasslands" State Hospital at Vallhalla, N. Y.

Alan is more than six feet in height, slender and physically fit. He has light, very curly hair, large blue eyes, clean cut features, altogether a fine, wholesome, distinguished looking young man.

Since childhood he has been a collector of stamps and pursues other hobbies with intentness which has increased his alertness, for he will appraise and observe understandingly seemingly slight details and make them stand out in importance and beauty. He has a pronounced talent for drawing and art as well as a genius for research and statistical matters, infinite patience and orderliness in cataloguing material, perseverance and enthusiasm. His interests are many and varied for he is athletic, a lover of nature and the out of doors as well as of books, which he enjoys both for reading and collecting. They own several rare old volumes.

He is quiet and somewhat reserved in manner, not inclined to much conversation, but is well informed and a very interested listener. His tastes are simple, he is not exacting, temperamental or high strung, although he is quick tempered but not vindictive. He is industrious and ambitious with good judgment and abundant common sense. He is



very mild in manner, slow and methodical which seems to fit well with a man who weighs well his affairs and does not rush into hasty decisions.

He is a member of Phi Epsilon Kappa Fraternity.

He designed and executed the insignia of Grandfather Lenz which appears elsewhere in these records.

No children have been born to Marion and Alan.

#### HELEN SHIRLEY PATTEN (1907—)

*(Mrs. Harold Emery Hunter)*

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Helen Shirley, daughter of Albert William Patten and Ella Lenz Patten, was born at 16 Sixth avenue, Gloversville, N. Y. on November 11, 1907. She had the unusual distinction of being 11 years old on the 11th day of the 11th month, it being likewise the day on which the Armistice was signed ending the World War in 1918.

She was four years, five months old when we removed to Pittsfield, Mass. where her education was acquired. She was graduated from the High School in the class of 1925 as a Pro Merito scholar. Like her sister, she was early identified with the musical life of the school, for she began the study of the violin at the age of seven years. She was a member of the High School orchestra, of the Pittsfield Symphony orchestra acting as soloist at concerts in and about Berkshire county. She had classes in violin at the Berkshire School of Music, a small conservatory established in Pittsfield more than half a century ago. In October, 1925 she entered the Institute of Musical Arts in New York City and studied privately with Sam Franko, a well known concert violinist and instructor. Two years later as a member of a quartette of violinists, she toured the west and several southern states with the "Venetian Glass Company," a very beautiful presentation given in the outstanding Publix Theaters along the route which occupied six months. Directly upon her return, she was married in New York City to Harold Emery Hunter, formerly of Pittsfield and then employed in New York as purser on United Fruit Company Vessels cruising to the West Indies and South America.

She continued her musical career in orchestra work and was also a member of a trio of violinists who played at times over radio and filled various engagements including several weeks in Boston, New York City and other cities near New York. She no longer pursues music as a profession but wholly for her own pleasure and that of her friends.

It goes without saying that large families furnish a variety of temperaments, talents and interests, but diversity may be equally pronounced in the small circle, as indeed, it has been in ours. Although

Helen and Marion have some interests in common, yet, even from early childhood their dispositions, tastes and interests diverged so widely, for the most part, that one would scarcely believe the same environment enfolded each. Even in appearance they have always been entirely opposite, Helen being typically brunette and Marion blonde. When they were both still at home together, we were wont to humorously compare the contrasting temperaments by saying that Marion's entrance into a room was like the stir of a soft summer breeze, Helen's little short of a miniature cyclone. She was not vicious or ill behaved but simply heedless—so vivacious, high strung, full of health, vigor and the fun of living that her inward exuberance of spirit compelled her to proceed at a more rapid pace than her little body could comfortably negotiate. If, at times, we commented upon her lively escapades, her torn garments and the like, my mother would invariably recall for me, with unsympathetic amusement in her eyes, my own childhood performances and quote the old saying, "The apple does not fall far from the tree." With it all she was so keen, clever, affectionate and lovable that it was indeed an unenviable parental task to discipline her as strictly as she deserved for her own good. Discipline seemed always to sit lightly upon her shoulders, yet she was always exceptionally well mannered, well behaved and poised in company seeming to know instinctively when to free her energies and when to keep them temporarily bottled. Sleep walking and terrifying nightmares were habitually the aftermath of too exciting days.

As she grew into womanhood she retained plenty of her high spirited, temperamental nature, and with increasing responsibility, came a tendency to be over anxious about the future and to be irritated by the little things of the daily routine. Suppression, unfavorable surroundings, uncongenial people are intensely annoying to her and she adapts herself none too graciously to criticism, suggestion, or unsolicited advice since she prefers to learn life's daily lessons from personal experience. She is extremely sensitive, sympathetic, soft hearted, open handed, quick tempered without being resentful. In the performance of duties and obligations she is extremely conscientious, reliable and loyal, persevering and painstaking for she concentrates all of her thought and energies upon the immediate task whether it be work or pleasure. Her executive ability and pronounced business acumen are almost incongruous in one of her temperament. Nor is she haphazard in her tastes, for in her home and in her personal appearance, there is evidenced a keen sense of the artistic and that which is fitting. Although Helen is far from frugal and only mildly practical, yet she is very domestic and a systematic, excellent housekeeper devoted to her home in every way.

She is very striking in appearance, tall, slender, athletic, suntanned, broad shouldered with firm muscles and capable hands. Her dark brown hair is short and falls in graceful waves, made entirely by na-



ture and her dark brown eyes rove with the same mischievous, inquiring ways as in childhood. She is not masculine, for whether she is seen on the tennis court, in the ball room or in the home, she radiates a wholly feminine charm and attractiveness. She is an expert swimmer, a lover of the out of doors, of nature in every form, of all animals, for her one ambition is to some day have a private menagerie in her own back yard. She lays claim to no deep cravings for the pretentious types of literature nor to being scholarly or profound, yet she enjoys reading, has an inborn appreciation of the classic in literature, music and the arts.

Helen is frank, outspoken, matter of fact but agreeably so, possesses a quick wit and drollery that is amusing. She is intense in her likes and dislikes and has always preferred the close friendship of a few rather than the activities of a group.

Although Helen appears physically fit yet her health is not of the best since she acquired, by inheritance, severe headaches and digestive disturbances which grow more annoying as she grows older. However, with characteristic grit and courage, she endures and accepts them as her "hard luck."

For the past seven years she has been employed as a secretary in the offices of The Literary Digest, New York.

Harold Emery Hunter to whom Helen was married on June 24, 1927, was born at Manchester, New Hampshire on July 25, 1902 the son of William Hunter, a native of Newbury, Vermont and Gladys Emery Hunter, born in Lowell, Vermont.

Harold has a most interesting historical background having descended from sturdy Colonial stock on both the maternal and paternal sides of the clans. His grandfather, Nathan Avery Hunter, was a direct descendant of the Avery clan of England, while the Hunters were of Lanark, Scotland. The Averys migrated to America and were among the earliest settlers of Groton, Conn., eight generations of whom resided in the same old Colonial homestead which was eventually destroyed by fire. Mr. John D. Rockefeller came of one of the branches of the same Avery family and following the destruction of the old homestead, he had placed a bronze tablet to designate its former location. At least one in every generation of the Avery-Hunter stock has served in the United States Army or Navy, Harold's father being a veteran of the Spanish-American war. Clarice Tuttle was the wife of Nathan Avery Hunter. Harold's mother is the daughter of Martin Luther Emery, of Lowell, Vt., both strains coming from earliest Colonial stock. Jonathan Wakefield—one of her kinsman—was in a boat that was delegated to watch and give the alarm along the coast when the lights appeared in Old North Church on the night of Paul Revere's Ride. He was killed at the Battle of Dorchester Heights in 1776 and his name appears upon the memorial placed there. One of Harold's grandfathers died in Libby Prison, the other was long confined in Andersonville being

released in broken health for the remainder of his days. Although Harold is fully eligible on all four sides of his family to be a Son of the American Revolution, he has never identified himself with any of these organizations.

Harold attended the schools of Lynn and Boston and was graduated from Dean Academy at Franklin, Mass. in the class of 1921. While employed at the First National Bank in Boston, he took special courses in banking and business administration at Boston University. Following the removal of his family from Lynn to Pittsfield, he secured a clerical position with the Berkshire Life Insurance Company of Pittsfield. In 1925 he left for New York to accept a position with the United Fruit Company sailing for the West Indies and South America as assistant purser and later as purser. At present he is employed in the New York office of the same company with the title of passenger agent.

In business, Harold is very conscientious, courteous, painstaking and tactful. He is accurate, slow, and methodical in all his movements, friendly and affable. At times he is given to melancholy moods which have come to him by inheritance. Harold loves the sea with an intensity that makes association with ships a real joy. He is likewise fond of the lakes and mountains, for he is athletic, an expert swimmer, and enjoys all kinds of sports that permit of hours in the sunshine and nature's out of doors.

Although Harold is not robust in appearance, he is physically fit—always in excellent health. He is of medium height, slight in build with dark curly hair, brown eyes and clear olive skin, clean cut and prepossessing. He is always meticulous in personal appearance, dignified and reserved in bearing. He is strong in his likes and dislikes and outside of business does not mix well with people who are distasteful to him. He is somewhat quick to wrath and slow to recover his good will, but for the most part he is a jovial, entertaining, extremely pleasing person to meet.

Both Helen and he enjoy travel and vacation at times in the Tropics. They reside in New York City.

Both are members of South Congregational Church, Pittsfield, Mass.

No children have been born to them.



## CHAPTER VII

KATHARINE FRIEDRIKE LENZ (1848-1896)

(*Mrs. Albert Henry Metzger*)

### SECOND GENERATION

Katharine Friedrike, daughter of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabeth Henrietta Regel Lenz, was born at Werdorf, Germany on September 13, 1848, and died at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on May 4, 1896 at the early age of 48 years. Death was due to cerebral hemorrhage. She is buried in the St. Johnsville Cemetery.

She was six years of age when the family came to America and was, therefore, ready to attend the district school at Stone Arabia. After a few years of meager schooling, she learned the trade of cheese making and was employed in that capacity until, at the age of 21, she went to Gloversville, N. Y. as an operator in a glove factory.

On January 1, 1872 she was married to Albert Henry Metzger of Gloversville who was born in Baden, Germany on December 25, 1844, the son of George Henry Metzger and - - -

In the year 1880 they took up their residence in St. Johnsville, N. Y. where as hardware merchant, plumber and tinsmith, he carried on a very successful business until his sudden death of pneumonia on March 6, 1904. He was a man of strong convictions, outstanding personality, honest, upright, not easily swerved from his opinions and judgments. Outside his business, which he conducted in a capable manner, his interests leaned very strongly to the cultural things of life, so that, the eight children born to them received every advantage that the schools could afford, supplemented by musical training which he personally supervised. He encouraged their efforts in many ways particularly by group playing of various instruments in the home circle, at the church, or other village organizations. He was quick of manner and speech, easily disturbed, somewhat impatient and high tempered, strict in discipline. His calm, patient, sweet wife was a perfect balance, for, by her foresight and economy, she helped to render more practical some of the father's ideals for the family.

He was a man of fine physique, powerfully built, with Van Dyke beard of a medium brown as was his hair. He had rather sharp penetrating blue eyes and an aggressive chin—a man who could sway others by the force of his energetic personality.

Although the mother of eight children in days when the wife and mother was herself responsible for practically every household duty including the sewing and knitting for the entire family. "Aunt Kate," as she was affectionately known, still found time and strength to assist, comfort and cheer her friends and neighbors in illness, sorrow, misfortune or anxieties. She was a refuge, a resting place for her own dear ones, and, for the entire neighborhood. Her steadfastness, discretion and discerning eye provided for her a ready, sympathetic understanding while her faith and great patience with life



Katherine Lenz Metzger  
Albert Henry Metzger

invariably calmed their own distress and apprehension, or shamed their feeble trust and fretfulness into renewed hope, courage and effort.

My girlhood memory of "Aunt Kate" is one of intense admiration. She was always the same, always dependable. There was never any sudden change of mood, no abruptness of manner, no hasty words to bite and sting, no ridicule for the shortcomings of others. Young or old received in greeting a patient, kindly, motherly smile, and although she was ever serenely occupied with some very pressing duty, yet she was never absorbed beyond being an attentive, gracious companion. One received the impression that all her work was congenial.



If she, herself, had anxieties, fears or heartaches, she bore them in silence without rebellion or self pity. One cannot visualize her as gruff, assertive, vindictive or, in irritated mood, creating unpleasant discordant scenes in the home circle or neighborhood. On the contrary, her sweet understanding smile, her tact, her resourcefulness would quietly, but effectively, disarm hatred or anger and soften the uncharitable, hasty remark. Although no word need be spoken, somehow she seemed to leave behind her an atmosphere of forbearance and peace.

"Aunt Kate" was beautiful—not with that superficial physical attractiveness with which women emerge from the beauty salons, but lovely with an inner radiance that was reflected in her serene, kindly face. It might be remembered by some that she was of medium height, fair of skin, with a round face and brown hair, but it was her eyes that caught and held you. Although I was scarcely 16 years of age when she so suddenly departed for her journey through "the Valley of the Shadow," memory paints for me most vividly those candid, pleasant, motherly blue eyes looking out upon life unafraid and with such sweet patience. Instinctively I associate with her the words of the Psalmist, "I have set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved."

She had such capable hands! It mattered not at all how great were the demands made upon her by day or by night those strong, work-worn hands quietly, steadily and unselfishly performed the required task. Her energy seemed untiring, her strength superhuman, her ambition and diligence unquenchable.

While engaged in school teaching near Gloversville for several years, her daughter, Elizabeth, paid frequent visits at our home. Again and again she would go to her own home in St. Johnsville on Friday evening taking with her material she had purchased for some garment. She would return on Sunday proudly wearing the finished dress or suit which her clever, diligent mother had somehow made at odd moments while likewise attending to her regular strenuous week end duties for her large family.

In addition to these innumerable tasks she likewise found time and strength to spend for her church where she was an active, dependable worker. Her excellent judgment, wisdom and insight were relied upon to guide many a difficult task to a successful finish, for she had a marked gift for organization and management. Her church life meant much to her for she was deeply religious, and all of her children were taught to give freely of their thought, time and talent to the church.

Versatile, loyal to every duty, thrifty, diligent, persevering, self-effacing, magnanimously shifting the heavy burdens of others upon her own over-burdened shoulders—these and innumerable other gracious deeds unselfishly and quietly performed were a greater tax upon her physical strength than nature had provided for. She

herself had over-estimated her strength and endurance until it was too late to make amends. Her sudden death of cerebral hemorrhage, at the early age of only 48, left the family wholly unprepared for the tremendous responsibilities so abruptly thrust upon them. So thoroughly and efficiently had she managed the home and cared for the interests that the mechanism was wholly hidden from the sight of even the immediate circle. It soon became evident that the father was wholly unfitted by temperament to carry on the management of the home along with his business, so that, at the suggestion of my father, Henry Lenz, the youngest child, Florence, came to live temporarily at our home in Gloversville, where she remained some four years. Catherine, aged nine years, went to live in Fonda, N. Y. for a similar period with her mother's brother, John Lenz. At the end of this period, the children returned to their father's home only to have the home broken again four years later by his sudden death of pneumonia. The home life was then transferred to Broadalbin, N. Y. where Elizabeth, the oldest sister, was a teacher in the public schools. Guided by her good judgment and that of the older brother, Fraser, who had entered the ministry, the younger children continued without interruption toward the goal set for them in education and cultural accomplishments later following, with success, some profession for which they were fitted until they were established in homes of their own.

The ensuing poem by an anonymous author might well have been written with "Aunt Kate" in mind so aptly does it typify her unselfish, beautiful character so that I am inserting it as a sincere tribute to her memory.

#### GREAT HEART

"You smiling lived and smiling went away,  
Great Heart—you would be sad were we to pay  
In tears our tribute. We would wreath your grave.  
The kindness that looked from out your eyes,  
The courage and the mighty power of good  
You brought to us by your grand womanhood—

These pay you greater homage than our tears;  
These live beyond our own brief span of years;  
Dear Friend—Great Heart—  
The selfless path you trod  
Has marked for us the starlit path of God."

#### Children:

Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D., L. H. D.  
Elizabeth Metzger (Deceased.)  
Edward F. Metzger.  
Frank A. Metzger (Deceased.)  
Jeanette Metzger (Mrs. Charles Bayley Adams.)  
Ida May Metzger (Mrs. Willard B. Gardner.)  
Catherine Metzger (Mrs. Conrad Philip Hazen.)  
Florence Metzger (Mrs. Floyd Hazard Moore.)



REV. FRASER METZGER, D. D., L. H. D. (1872—)

### THIRD GENERATION

Fraser, eldest son of Albert Metzger and Katherine Lenz Metzger, was born on October 25, 1872 at the Lenz homestead at Stone Arabia while his mother was paying a visit to her parents, she having gone there from Gloversville where they were then residing.

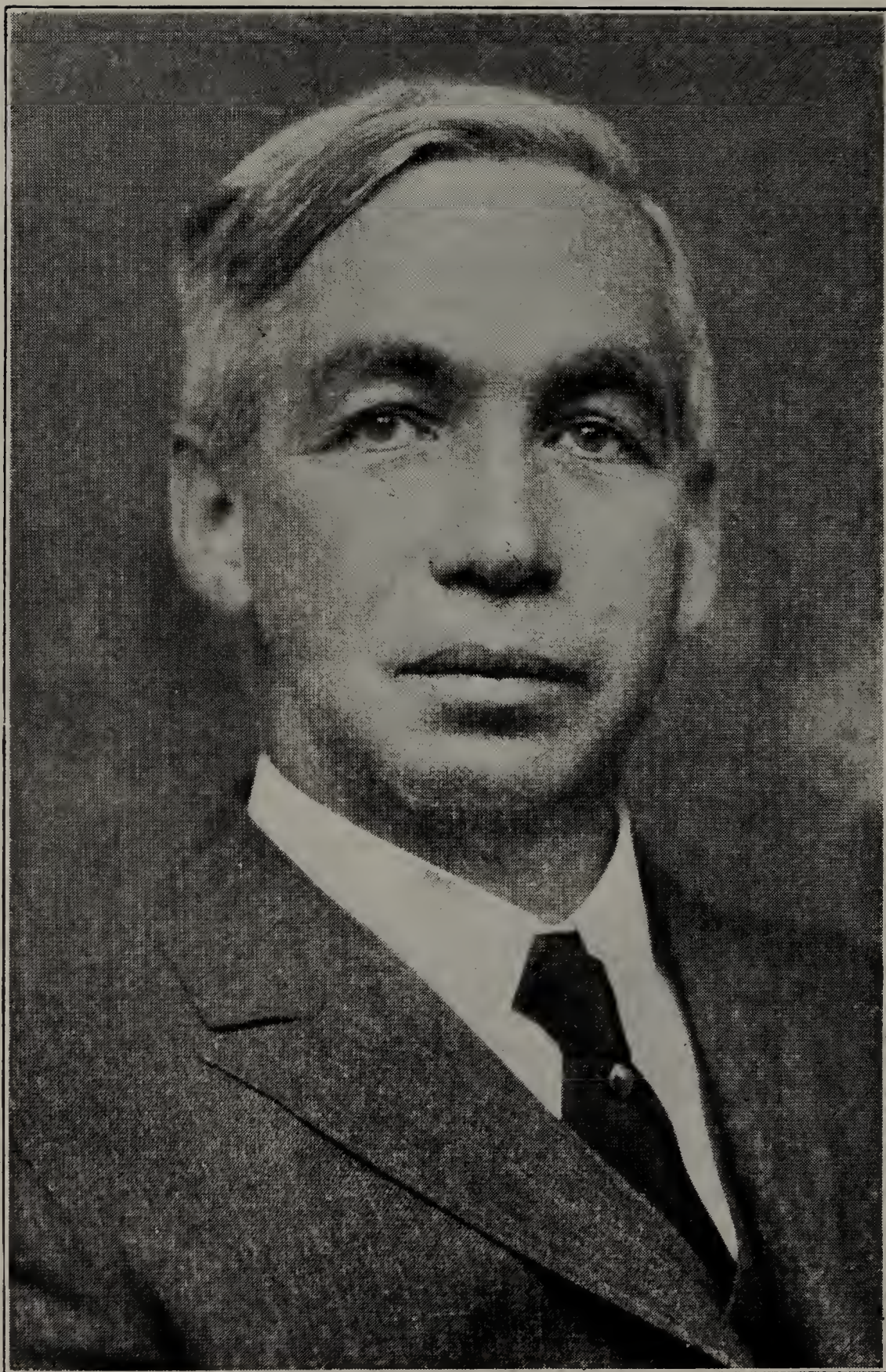
Fraser received his education in St. Johnsville, N. Y., where his parents moved when he was a small boy. Following his graduation from High School he entered the Christian Biblical Institute at Stamfordville, N. Y. and in 1902 was graduated from Union College at Schenectady, N. Y.

Like so many fathers who have worked from a boyhood apprenticeship to the proprietorship of a prosperous business, his father was greatly disappointed and disturbed that Fraser was not minded to carry on the hardware business along with him. Fraser was enterprising, ambitious, energetic, friendly—all assets for a good business man—yet he had no leaning to the trades for he was essentially a scholar. He received little encouragement from his father so that largely by his own efforts he financed his own education for the ministry for which he was so outstandingly qualified.

He spent his summer vacations as student pastor and went to Randolph, Vermont to assume his first pastorate immediately after his graduation from college in 1902. Here he remained 21 years doing a unique and remarkable work among the people of that community, the influence of which is still felt throughout the State. He was pastor, brother, friend, counselor—trusted and beloved to a degree such as few men ever attain in any position in life. His home was never locked by day or night even when the family were away on prolonged vacations, yet, so greatly was he revered that the entire community felt a personal responsibility for the protection of his home during his absence. His very presence in their midst seemed to bring a sense of security and protection. "He meets all classes of people on a level, and even the little lad in the streets feels free to greet him"—such statements coming from citizens of Randolph give some inkling of the type of personality that was able to achieve such marked success in so many important enterprises.

I was a small girl when Fraser was a frequent summer vacation guest at our Stone Arabia home so that I do not recollect any outstanding inclinations to religious or scholarly things, yet I can readily reconstruct characteristics strikingly in evidence then that were later consistently harnessed by him to such great advantage in his life work. He was so wholly alive, enthusiastic, energetic, zealous, friendly, jolly, wholesome—interested in everybody and everything. He was absolutely natural, unembarrassed, honest, with a keen sense of humor. His jolly laugh would ring out infectiously even though the fun were at his own expense. Everyone liked "Frase" for he was





REV. FRASER METZGER, D. D., L. H. D.  
*Dean of Men, Rutgers University*



so friendly and agreeable, and Fraser liked everyone. He was by nature social, a "good mixer." How thoroughly he enjoyed the association with my father and brothers in the cheese factory! How frequently he now speaks reminiscently of those happy days particularly of my mother's lenience and patient good nature when, almost daily, he presented himself with some torn garment for repairs. He was so jovial and frank in his confession of carelessness that mother found only amusement in the oft recurring task.

Equipped from early adolescence with such a buoyant, spirited temperament fortunately mingling with stability, common sense, keen judgment, an excellent business sense, and a sympathetic concern for the rights and welfare of even the humblest, small wonder that Fraser became, without question, the most prominent and respected citizen of Randolph, if not of the entire State of Vermont, where his inspiring personality and enduring accomplishments still stand out on all sides as living monuments to his one time presence in the State.

His outstanding work was the uniting of two churches of different denominations into one group under one pastor which was accomplished only three years after he had assumed the pastorate of the Christian Church. When the Congregational Church, "The White Church"—became vacant of a pastor in 1905 he advised a union of this church with his own, and it was his wisdom and guiding hand that directed the delicate, difficult steps in the merging. Because of the strong impression he had already made in his brief ministry in that village, he was unanimously chosen as pastor where he labored very acceptably and faithfully until his resignation August 16, 1923. The name of Bethany Church was adopted. The White Church was used for services, the old Christian Church, of which he had been pastor, was razed and the parsonage of the former was sold. With the funds thus acquired a Parish House and a Social Hall were built. A large Music hall was donated which is used as a Community Theatre during the week and for Sunday evening worship which attracts more than a thousand people each week. Again Fraser's splendid foresight and interest were shown by the fact that he gave explanatory addresses concerning the featured moving pictures appearing in the Parish Theatre.

These undertakings which were then classed as "radical," were carried out through 1906-1907 and were so outstanding that the program attracted country wide attention, even the Metropolitan press had a share in speculating as to the ultimate success and the wisdom of such an undertaking. The soundness of this course has been justified by the notable work of this religious Community Center in that section of the state and much of its permanent success was due to the tact, good judgment and ceaseless activity of the beloved young pastor whose personality was so rare. Ancient denominational lines—strong as castle walls—fell aside at the touch of his magnetic hand, but he built the new upon permanent, enduring foundations

so that only far reaching good resulted from the venture with a great faith as guide.

During the influenza epidemic which struck the village with terrific violence, he turned Bethany Parish House into an emergency hospital and his was a familiar, sympathetic figure directing untiringly the work of relief.

For his distinguished work in Vermont, Middlebury College conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1921.

In August, 1923 he resigned the pastorate of Bethany Church, after 21 years of faithful service, to become Chaplain at Pennsylvania State College which position he felt offered wider opportunity for service among young people in whom he was intensely interested. The news of his intended departure from Vermont brought forth numerous glowing tributes, favorable comments and summaries of his versatile and notable accomplishments. Because these people knew of his achievements more accurately than we who were not within the immediate radius of his activities, I shall quote from the August 16, 1923 issue of the Randolph Daily paper also the Congregationalist which facts were likewise stated in many other New England and Metropolitan newspapers:—

“Dr. Metzger’s departure will create a void hard to fill in the community where for so many years he has been. It cannot be counted other than a serious loss to the entire state.”

“In State and National religious service, Dr. Metzger has been very prominent. He was one of the founders and for eight years executive secretary of the Interchurch Federation of Vermont. For four years he was president of the State Christian Endeavor Union.

He was a member of the National Committee on Social Service of the National Council of Congregational Churches of America; vice president of the Vermont Congregational Conference and a member of its board of directors.

“In the political field Dr. Metzger first became active as a strong proponent of the Progressive party enjoying the close personal friendship of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt. He toured Vermont with the presidential candidate making a strong impression. He was nominated for Governor and received a large vote but was not elected. He continued his intimacy with Mr. Roosevelt up to the latter’s death.

“He was elected to the State Legislature in 1917 and was re-nominated in 1918 but withdrew to go into war service. His war service began as a member of the State Food Conservation Committee and of the Committee of Public Safety where he did valuable work as organizer and lecturer throughout New England. Late in 1918 he entered Camp Taylor, Kentucky for training, but the Armistice came before he had completed his course. He has since been active in State and National committees of the American Legion.

He has been a member of the National Committee on Social Service; of the board of directors of the Vermont Tuberculosis Association;



of the executive committee of the Vermont Hospital Association and of the Soldiers' Home at Bennington.

"Locally his activities have embraced everything of a worthy nature. He was associated at the outset with the organization of the Randolph Sanatorium and for many years served as clerk or president of the corporation. He enjoys sports of all kinds and has interested himself in athletics frequently as coach or player. He has been a member of the University Club and contributed much to its profit and pleasure as well as to that of the Christian Brotherhood.

"The work he has enjoyed and which has perhaps been most fruitful is his association with the young people of the community. Many have come under his influence."

"Few men will be missed from the Congregational gatherings of the State as the retiring pastor of Bethany Church. Randolph and Orange county will yield up their brotherly leader with much reluctance."

After two years conscientious service at Pennsylvania State College he was invited to become Dean of Men at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J. where he still carries on the work of guiding and influencing the lives of the younger generation who come under his jurisdiction. He speaks frequently over radio in the interests of education and has travelled in Europe during vacation periods.

Fraser is tall, inclined to stoutness, robust with large blue eyes florid skin and a pleasant, kindly face. He has grown very gray in service for others, but with the years he has unwittingly taken on a distinction in bearing that reveals the abundant power, the capacity for leadership and organization, the courage and steadfastness that lie within. With the enormous responsibilities thrust upon him he has become more grave, but he has not lost his enthusiasm and he is wholly accessible, sympathetic, unassuming—a man whose largeness of soul instinctively invites confidence.

If I were to summarize in one brief sentence his active career, I would unhesitatingly say that whatever he has touched by his personality he has strengthened and transformed.

In 1935 Union College conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters (L. H. D.)

During his student pastorate at Freehold, N. Y. he met Jessie Amy Lacy, daughter of Curtis Rogers Lacy and Alphonsine Austin Lacy, to whom he was married on June 12, 1902.

She too filled a large place in the life of the Vermont community cooperating in every way in the busy life of her active, capable husband. She is wonderfully suited to such a life for she combines charm, graciousness, sympathetic understanding with energy and a capacity for accomplishing much with little show of effort. She is calm, quiet and wholesome, sweet tempered, amiable and a congenial companion. The home life is one of restfulness and comfort in spite of the many inroads made upon the privacy of the home. Strangers

instinctively feel the cordial welcome that seems to permeate the atmosphere. As a mother too she is ideal accepting the responsibilities quietly and directing the tastes and abilities of the children in worthy directions. She is of medium height, slender with dark hair and eyes, not over sturdy in appearance but is in good health.

Three sons were born to them.

Children:

Albert Lacy Metzger.

Rev. Roscoe Fraser Metzger.

Karl Edward Metzger.

#### ALBERT LACY METZGER (1905—)

##### FOURTH GENERATION

Albert Lacy, son of Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D. and Jessie Lacy Metzger was born at Randolph, Vermont on July 11, 1905.

After completing his studies at the local High School, he entered Dartmouth College at Hanover, New Hampshire and following his graduation, he continued his studies at the Princeton Graduate College, Princeton, New Jersey. He is an instructor at Englewood, New Jersey.

Albert is of medium height with dark hair and eyes. He is quiet in manner, has a pleasant face and a dignified bearing.

On September 6, 1929, he was married at Lambertville, New Jersey to Gladys Schenk, daughter of John Schenk and Jane Schenk. The ceremony was performed by his father, the Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D., Dean of Men at Rutgers University.

Gladys is tall and brunette in type. She has a very charming personality, is friendly and gracious at all times.

One child has been born to them.

Children:

Ann Schenk Metzger.

#### ANN SCHENK METZGER (1932—)

##### FIFTH GENERATION

Ann Schenk, daughter of Albert Lacy Metzger and Gladys Schenk Metzger was born at Englewood, New Jersey on April 15, 1932.

#### REV. ROSCOE FRASER METZGER (1910—)

##### FOURTH GENERATION

Roscoe Fraser, son of Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D. and Jessie Lacy Metzger, was born at Randolph, Vermont on April 1, 1910.

Following his graduation from High School, he entered Rutgers University and upon his graduation, he prepared for the ministry



at the Union Theological Seminary at New York City completing his work there on May 12, 1935. During his student years, he held vacation pastorates at Dover, West Brookfield and East Braintree, all located in Vermont. He is at present located at Ellington, Connecticut as pastor of the Congregational Church.

He is a member of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity.

Roscoe is of medium height with gray eyes and fair complexion. He has a very friendly, pleasing manner, is frank and sincere in his work in the pulpit and in his parish duties. Wherever he has served as pastor, he has been highly regarded.

On August 2, 1934 he was married to Jonie Gildersleeve Pratt of Hackensack, New Jersey, daughter of Henry Basil Pratt and Augusta Reinmann Pratt. The ceremony was performed at the Presbyterian Church by Roscoe's father, Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D., Dean of Men at Rutgers University, assisted by the Rev. Charles R. Kuebler, D. D., pastor of the church.

Jonie is a graduate of Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.

She is attractive in appearance, of medium height with dark hair and eyes, is in every way well fitted for the role of pastor's wife.

No children have been born to them.

#### KARL EDWARD METZGER (1912—)

##### FOURTH GENERATION

Karl Edward, son of Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D. and Jessie Laey Metzger, was born at Randolph, Vermont on April 1, 1912.

He received his advanced education at Rutgers University and following his graduation, he secured a position with Johnson and Johnson at New Brunswick, New Jersey. For some time he resided in Sao Paulo, Brazil, S. A. in the interests of the company.

Karl is tall and prepossessing in appearance with dark hair and eyes. He is energetic and capable, has a friendly, cordial, pleasing manner. He is a member of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity.

On October 11, 1934 he was married to Eleanor Hubbard Smith who was born at New Brunswick, New Jersey on July 25, 1912, the daughter of Littleton Kirkpatrick Smith and Grace Hubbard Smith.

The ceremony was performed by Karl's father, the Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D., Dean of Men at Rutgers University. A portrait of the bride's great, great aunt, Mrs. Sophia Astley Kirkpatrick, wife of the donor of the chapel, hung on the chapel wall above the wedding party.

Eleanor was educated at the Scudder School, New York City. She is of medium height, slender and brunette in type, vivacious in manner with a ready smile and winning personality.

Note—Since the above was written, Karl and family have returned

from South America. He is taking a post graduate course at Rutgers University.

Children:

Fraser Kirk Metzger.

FRASER KIRK METZGER (1935—)  
FIFTH GENERATION

Fraser Kirk, son of Karl Edward Metzger and Eleanor Smith Metzger, was born at Sao Paulo, Brazil, South America on October 5, 1935.

ELIZABETH METZGER (1875—1927)  
THIRD GENERATION

Elizabeth, daughter of Albert Metzger and Katherine Lenz Metzger, was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on July 9, 1875.

She attended the local schools and after her graduation from High School, prepared herself for teaching at the St. Johnsville Teachers' Training School. She taught the Parsons District School, north of Gloversville and later in the grade school at Broadalbin, N. Y., where she remained several years. She was actively identified with the social and musical life of the village. As pianist of more than ordinary ability she gave much time, thought and energy to the various local enterprises.

Following the death of her mother and father, she established a home for her younger sisters there with her until they were prepared to go on to more advanced educational work. This duty was unselfishly performed, and when the sisters were self supporting she accepted a position in Johnstown, N. Y. and later at Amsterdam, N. Y. which position she held at the time of her untimely death on August 6, 1927.

Her great love for music impelled her to take up the study of the pipe organ and to renew her piano study after she had passed the age of 40 years. She applied herself so diligently and earnestly that it was not long before her instructor selected her to substitute for him occasionally at one of the large churches in Amsterdam. It was while practicing at the organ for such an occasion that she was suddenly stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage which terminated in embolism from which she died several weeks later at the Amsterdam City Hospital. Her suffering was intense, almost unbearable to those who, in sympathy watched beside her as she heroically awaited the welcome summons to journey on "to that fairer Land where pain and sorrow are no more." She lies buried in the family plot at St. Johnsville, N. Y.

Elizabeth possessed a vivid, sparkling, charming personality that lent zest and freshness to every occasion. She was tall, large of



frame and features, with dark hair, large expressive blue eyes which were made more attractive by the extreme pallor of her skin. Her face was ardent—all animation—with emotions racing across in lively tell-tale fashion. Rarely were her moods other than cheerful, for she was optimistic, genial, amiable, intensely enthusiastic, had a merry, infectious laugh, although she had been far from robust from girlhood, having suffered from a heart ailment, violent headaches, and digestive disorders.

Her early training in music which she followed all her life, made her an excellent entertainer for she was so generous and gracious about accepting her place at the piano. She was a charming hostess and a delightfully companionable guest.

Always fastidious in her tastes, she possessed an exquisite perception of things beautiful and artistic. She loved life intensely but only the clean, uplifting, worthy things had attraction for her. By training, inclination or choice she was far removed from the domestic, yet upon the passing of both her mother and father she was able to adjust herself to the business of home making when that duty was required of her. Whatever came that was distasteful to her she accepted in a spirit of good humor, for she had a keen sense of the ridiculous and delighted in fun even at her own expense. However, she was not flippant or irresponsible but extremely conscientious with a depth of character that held in reserve for her the strength to keep free of bitterness, fear or resentfulness throughout the years of uncertain health. Although she never complained or indulged in the luxury of self pity, those of us who knew her intimately could readily sense that life had at times dealt none too kindly with her, for disappointments, disillusionment and self-sacrifice stalked ever close beside her. Her sisters and brothers were solicitous of her health and comfort at all times, yet after they were established in homes of their own in distant cities, their interests were no longer so intimately hers. Living for so many years entirely among strangers, many of her days must surely have been without cheer or comfort—colorless and monotonous—particularly when ill health beat upon her ever and ever more insistently. So often I marvel at her faith and courage in that she habitually turned a brave, smiling face to the world when her heart must at times have been overwhelmed by a sense of aloneness and apprehension. Elizabeth was too reserved to “wear her heart upon her sleeve,” yet she gave her confidence freely to those whom she counted discreet and trustworthy.

For 35 years, in the capacity of teacher in the grammar schools, she spread her wholesome influence about her, and her excellent record of accomplishment still survives in the lives of those who, during their formative years, came under her inspiring direction. Nor did she confine her teaching wholly to the school room. She was long identified with Bible School teaching on Sunday and acted as supervisor of the Week Day Vacation Bible School at Amsterdam, N. Y.

Her church used her talents in many ways yet she conscientiously felt that her first duty was to be an efficient, capable teacher so that she had of necessity to conserve her energy wherever possible. Her hands, always fastidiously cared for, "dressed up hands," so to speak, were far from idle for they were busy performing tasks far beyond the physical capacity of her none too sturdy body even though she guarded herself assiduously against this very danger.

Her untimely death at the age of 52 years brought to an unexpected close a valiant, useful, well spent life. Some one has said,



Elizabeth Metzger

"How much untabulated goodness there is in the world." Elizabeth's modest, inconspicuous contribution to life is nowhere visibly "tabulated," yet we who were honored by her love and friendship feel that she filled a place of tremendous importance and that "she has left the world far better just for having passed through."

EDWARD F. METZGER (1879—)  
THIRD GENERATION

Edward, son of Albert Metzger and Katherine Lenz Metzger was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on July 30, 1879.

Following his graduation from the local High School he was as-



sociated with his father in the hardware and plumbing business and was an energetic, alert capable workman. After his father's death he carried on the business for a short time but soon entered into a partnership with his cousin, William H. Lenz, of Fonda, N. Y. Later he sold his interest to the latter, who also purchased the building from the father's estate, and Edward secured a position with the General Electric Company at Schenectady, N. Y.

He was married at Schenectady to Rhoda Smith of Galway, N. Y. whose record of birth and ancestry I was unable to secure.

They resided in Gloversville, N. Y. for a few years where Edward was a co-partner in a sheet metal business. Here his wife died and was buried at Galway, N. Y.

As I recall Edward in his young manhood, when last I saw him, he was short, sturdily built with blue eyes and dark hair. He was jolly with a ready laugh, energetic, ambitious, never idle yet he was never talkative or communicative so that his thoughts were very much his own. He had a somewhat passive interest in the home affairs, travelled his own prescribed course, and took none too readily to restraint or advice. He was trained in music, playing the wind instruments in the family orchestra.

Since the death of his wife, to whom he was very devoted, he has settled into an aloofness from his entire kin so that, for long periods, his whereabouts are unknown to them. This may be due in part to a fondness for travel, a "wanderlust" that lures him ever onward to fresh surroundings.

No children were born to Edward and his wife.

#### FRANK METZGER (1880—1884)

##### THIRD GENERATION

Frank, son of Albert Metzger and Katherine Lenz Metzger, was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. in 1880 and died of pneumonia on September 16, 1884. He is buried in the family plot at St. Johnsville.

#### JEANETTE EDITH METZGER (1883—)

*(Mrs. Charles Bayley Adams)*

##### THIRD GENERATION

Jeanette, daughter of Albert Metzger and Katherine Lenz Metzger, was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on July 11, 1883.

After graduating from the St. Johnsville High School she entered the Faxon Hospital Training School for Nursing at Utica, N. Y. later taking a post graduate course at the Infants' Hospital, Boston, Mass., and a Public Health Nurses' course at Simmons College School of Social Work, also at Boston. She was Superintendent of Graduate Nurse Hospital at Randolph, Vermont; did Public Health

nursing in Boston; at the Henry Street Settlement in New York City and at Newburg, N. Y.

To her family and friends Jeanette has been known as "Nettie." She is tall, well proportioned with brown hair and blue eyes, not large or pronounced in color, but conspicuous for their kindly, pleasant, contented expression which makes one instinctively feel that she can be trusted. In many ways she resembles her mother in appearance and mannerisms although she is more brisk and business like in her movements than was her mother, yet she has that same sweet, motherly way. She radiates efficiency and resourcefulness, kindles others with her enthusiasm as she travels whole-heartedly and energetically to her appointed goals, unconsciously leading the less qualified quietly along with her, for she has a marked talent for leadership and management so that many civic, fraternal, church and state affairs claim her ardent support and direction. She gives as careful attention to the simplest duty as to more important responsibilities so that she is dependable, straightforward, clear in her thinking and judgment. It goes without saying that she is gracious, tactful, sympathetic, wholly approachable yet pleasingly reserved and modest. She is outstanding as a mother and home maker, for that over-abundant capacity for management keeps the entire home circle harmoniously companionable and occupied in common purposes with wise forethought for the future as well.

On May 6, 1916 she was married to Charles Bayley Adams who was born at Randolph, Vermont on September 2, 1881, the son of Jairus Bullard Adams and Effie Thurston Adams of Waterbury, Vermont. The ceremony was performed by her brother, the Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D.

For several years they have resided at Waterbury where Charles is a well known attorney. He is prominent in the political life of the state for he has served in the capacity of State Representative and has twice been elected to the Senate. At the last election he was again chosen State Representative. He has also been State Attorney and has occupied other offices of importance in the county and in Waterbury. In 1937 he was appointed for life, Judge of the Supreme Court of Vermont.

He is a man of sterling character, fair minded, kindly, sympathetic, well liked throughout the state where his influence has been felt for many years. Above all he is a home loving man, companionable and content in spite of the many demands made upon his time by his professional duties.

He is commanding in appearance, dignified, poised, of fine physique, for he is more than six feet tall, robust and blonde.

Jeanette is deeply interested in public affairs and follows her distinguished husband's career actively, for she is a frequent visitor of the Senate or House when it is in session at Montpelier and has her-



self been chosen president of the Women's Republican Club of Vermont.

Two children have been born to them.

Children:

Charles Jairus Adams.

Katherine Effie Adams.

#### CHARLES JAIRUS ADAMS (1917—)

##### FOURTH GENERATION

Charles Jairus, son of Charles Bayley Adams and Jeanette Metzger Adams, was born at Randolph, Vermont on February 17, 1917.

He was educated at the local schools and was graduated from the High School at Waterbury, having been chosen president of his class. He is at present a student at Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont, and is vice president of his class. He is Second Corporal in Military Training. He has studied music since he was five years of age and plays both the piano and trumpet.

Charles is an alert, friendly, pleasant young man with many friends and acquaintances. He is a splendid student, dependable, earnest, conscientious, wholesome and genuine.

He is more than six feet 2 inches in height, tips the scales at 185 pounds, has blue eyes, light hair and fair skin, a stalwart, purposeful, fine looking young man.

#### KATHERINE EFFIE ADAMS (1920—)

##### FOURTH GENERATION

Katherine Effie, daughter of Charles Bayley Adams and Jeanette Metzger Adams, was born at Randolph, Vermont on April 1, 1920.

Katherine is a student in the High School at Waterbury, Vermont and has studied music since she was five years of age. She devotes most of her musical energies to the piano although she also plays the pipe organ and the xylophone.

She is tall, fair, with blue eyes and light hair, vivacious and energetic, full of ambition and a desire to make the most of her talents. She is a congenial companion, well liked by her friends and associates, very pleasant and attractive in manner and appearance.

#### IDA MAY METZGER (1885—)

(*Mrs. Willard B. Gardner*)

##### THIRD GENERATION

Ida May, daughter of Albert Metzger and Katherine Lenz Metzger, was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on August 26, 1885.

She received her elementary education at the local schools and her advanced training at the Johnstown Teacher's Training School and Oneonta State Normal School.

For several years she taught school at Herkimer, Hinckley, Port Washington, all in New York State. She was an earnest, conscientious, capable teacher who secured excellent results in a quiet, unassuming way. In all that she does she is extremely methodical, orderly, painstaking and the soul of neatness. She is reserved, makes friends slowly and carefully, for she is not socially inclined and is devoted solely to her home and family, seemingly indifferent to taking part in interests outside.

She is quiet, somewhat sober in manner, but not melancholy, thrifty, energetic, ambitious but not given to bustling about in irritating activity. Her preference for the seclusion and quietude of her own home may be due in part to the fact that she has frequent attacks of severe headaches and digestive disorders which are not improved by confusion or disturbed surroundings. Travel too is distasteful to her for much the same reason that illness overtakes her long before the journey is over.

She became the wife of Willard B. Gardner on August 25, 1914, the ceremony was performed at Hinckley, N. Y. by her brother the Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D. Willard was born on June 16, 1885 at Norwich, N. Y., the son of Harvey Gardner and Elizabeth Chaplin Gardner. He is a teacher and is principal of the Inwood School at Lawrence, L. I. They reside at Cedarhurst, L. I. They have one son.

Both Ida and her scholarly husband have set high standards for the home and these ideals were evident in the upbringing of their only son who was studious even as a small boy. There is an absence of gaiety in the home—one feels underneath a quiet, orderly, well arranged plan in which each fits with perfect understanding and respect for the rights of the other.

Ida is short and slender with light brown hair, blue eyes and somewhat pallid skin. She is so very modest that she shrinks from publicity of any sort so that she is not widely known in the community. but she wears the titles of wife, mother and home keeper with honor.

Willard is tall, of commanding appearance, quiet and dignified.

Children:

Willard Albert Gardner.

#### WILLARD ALBERT GARDNER (1916—)

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Willard Albert, son of Willard B. Gardner and Ida Metzger Gardner, was born at Cedarhurst, Long Island, N. Y. on March 7, 1916.



He was graduated from the local High School and is now a student at Rutgers University where he is pursuing a course in engineering. He is identified with the Delta Upsilon Fraternity.

He is a tall, slender young man with light wavy hair, blue eyes and fair complexion. From boyhood he has been studious, somewhat reserved in manner but very loyal, staunch and dependable in all his dealings with others. He is an excellent student with plenty of patience and perseverance to attack his problems, however difficult, and carry them to successful conclusions. He is physically and mentally fit—in every way a very fine type of young manhood.

#### ADDITION

Willard was graduated from Rutgers University in the class of June, 1937.

#### CATHERINE METZGER (1887—)

*(Mrs. Conrad Philip Hazen)*

#### THIRD GENERATION

Catherine, daughter of Albert Metzger and Katherine Lenz Metzger, was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on November 5, 1887.

After the death of her mother, she lived for about four years at Fonda, N. Y. with her mother's brother, John Lenz, where she attended school. Upon her return to her native town she continued her studies and was graduated from the High School after which she entered the Albany Business College.

She was married on September 18, 1917 to Conrad Philip Hazen of New York City who was born at Norwich, Vermont, the son of Thomas Hazen and Lizzie Loveland Hazen. The ceremony was performed at the Broadway Tabernacle, New York City, by the Rev. Charles E. Jefferson, D. D.

Shortly after their marriage he sailed for France to do his part in the World War. He was placed in the aviation service, and was killed in action in February, 1918—only five months after their marriage.

In December, 1917, Catherine gave up a responsible position with the New York Telephone Company to engage in war service as a private secretary with the Red Cross Division at Washington, D. C. She sailed for France in April, 1919 and was stationed at Paris as private secretary to one of the chief officials of the American Red Cross, remaining overseas for seven months. Upon her return to New York City, she again entered the field of private business as private secretary and now holds a position of responsibility.

Catherine is ambitious, full of energy, vivacious and alert with a keen interest in her work and a spontaneous attention to the simplest details, which accounts in part for her exceptional success. She is businesslike, speaks and moves quickly, almost brusquely at times.

is practical, reliable with splendid foresight, good judgment, resourcefulness and exceptional executive ability attending to her secretarial duties capably without show of effort, always agreeably prepared to do more than is expected of her when unexpected occasions arise.

Since early young womanhood she has lived among strangers in such large cities as Albany, Boston and New York, but the congested and impersonal environment has not spoiled her delightfully refreshing personality except to make her wholly self-reliant with an air of directness and frankness—an efficient woman, well poised and at ease in all situations. If she chooses to stop and laugh heartily even in the busy section of Broadway, she does so with no thought of self-consciousness, embarrassment or fear of ridicule, for she is so natural and unaffected, genuine and sincere in all that she does.

One would naturally expect her to be impetuous, highly strung in temperament, easily irritated and impatient at times in spite of an abundant reserve of patience, forbearance, and tact which carries her habitually through difficult, trying, responsible situations. She has a lively sense of humor, a ready and hearty laugh, is a good conversationalist because she has travelled both at home and abroad—always with her eyes wide open. She requires plenty of social life although she is content in her own home alone. She is active in several Women's Clubs, is secretary of the Overseas Club of New York City and gives much time to the support of her church activities. She is none too sturdy physically so that her activities outside of business hours, have of necessity, to be limited to the amount of energy in reserve.

Catherine has an appreciative eye for the artistic, dresses in excellent taste, is discerning in the selection of rare pieces of antique furniture for her home, enjoys the cultural things of life, particularly music which she pursues as a pastime during her leisure hours although she has no aspirations to become a great pianist or singer.

She is of medium height, slender, with light hair and large blue eyes that have a pleasant, alert, friendly expression which encourages friendliness and confidence in return.

Her husband was a stalwart son of New England, more than six feet in height, with brown hair and brown eyes. He was a man of sterling character, capable, thoughtful, home loving and thrifty. His departure for war service but a few weeks after their marriage, followed so soon by the tragic sacrifice of his young life to the demands of that war, have indelibly imprinted their mark upon Catherine's entire life, yet she is not cynical and embittered by her sorrow, for she is proud of his service to his country albeit of so short duration. Forever cherished by her is the sacred memory of having stood on hallowed ground beside Conrad's resting place "Over There" where, with his many comrades, he sleeps peacefully amid the softly scattering petals of the great scarlet poppies of Flanders Fields.



## FLORENCE METZGER (1890—)

*(Mrs. Floyd Hazard Moore)*

## THIRD GENERATION

Florence, daughter of Albert Metzger and Katherine Lenz Metzger was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on November 5, 1890.

Shortly after her mother's death, when she was about six years of age, she came to live temporarily at the home of her mother's brother, Henry Lenz (my father) at Gloversville, N. Y. where she remained for some four years and attended the local schools.

She was a strikingly beautiful child with large, sad, wistful blue eyes, fair skin with rosy cheeks, fair hair that hung in long heavy curls, and a sweet shyness and reserve that made her outstanding at all times. People openly admired her and exclaimed over her beauty, yet it embarrassed her rather than made her bold or conceited, for her innate modesty and discernment counseled the child that vanity is unbecoming even in a little girl. She was full of fun and life always in a quiet, unobtrusive way, made friends slowly and sparingly but was congenial and never assertive. She was an obedient child requiring very little disciplining, always grateful and openly appreciative of even the smallest things done for her comfort and happiness. So quietly and thoroughly had she wound herself about the heart-strings of our entire family that it was with a sense of keen loss that we returned her to her father's care at his longing request. His death of pneumonia in 1904 again disrupted the home life which was transferred to Broadalbin, N. Y. with the sister Elizabeth, a teacher in the local public school. She was graduated from High School and later from the Albany State Normal School. She lived at Hinckley, N. Y. for a time with her sister Ida, who was also a school teacher.

On June 21, 1912 she was married at Broadalbin, N. Y. to Dr. Floyd Hazard Moore of Herkimer, N. Y. the ceremony being performed by her brother the Rev. Fraser Metzger, D. D.

He was born July 7, 1890 at Herkimer, N. Y. to John David Moore and Elizabeth Davis Moore, and is a physician and surgeon with a wide practice in Herkimer and vicinity. He is a graduate of Albany Medical College of Union University in the class of 1912. He is a member of Omega Upsilon Phi Fraternity having been Master from 1911-1912 at Albany, N. Y.

He saw service in France during the World War, but was discharged because of asthma which was aggravated by the unaccustomed habits of trench life and the climate. The severe winters of the north likewise affect his health so that the family spend the winter season each year at their home in St. Petersburg, Florida, returning in spring so that he may resume his practice in Herkimer, N. Y.

Florence or "Floss," as she is more often called, passed into young

womanhood quite as sweetly charming as she had been in childhood. She has an amiability of disposition that is to be envied—so even, so controlled that her composure assures peace under all conditions. Her expressive, sincere eyes and patient manner, her graciousness and pleasant smile of understanding are an inheritance from her kindly, sweet mother whom she resembles in abundant measure. It may almost be said that she is a replica of her mother although not wholly so in physical appearance being taller and more vivacious in



Dr. Floyd Hazard Moore  
Florence Metzger Moore  
David Lenz Moore

her manner, with a jolly, ready laugh that never reaches the degree of hilarity.

She has ample leisure, for life has dealt kindly with her, bestowing upon her an abundance of physical comforts, yet she is not given to ostentation. Vanity is wholly alien to her wholesome, sweet temperament.

She is an ideal companion, wife, mother and friend for her amiability and unselfishness are so much a part of her that she is not easily disturbed or irritated and greets life with a reserved enthusiasm or a smile of genuine content.

One son has been born to them.

Children:

David Lenz Moore.



DAVID LENZ MOORE (1921—)  
FOURTH GENERATION

David Lenz, son of Floyd Hazard Moore, M. D. and Florence Metzger Moore, was born at Little Falls, N. Y. on September 17, 1921.

Like his mother, David was a strikingly beautiful child, fair, with large expressive blue eyes and a quiet, shy manner. He was noticeably precocious, for at the age of two years he was able to recite the alphabet and the capitals of each state in the Union, an accomplishment which gave his painstaking father no end of entertainment since this tiny lad would often put to shame many a grown up whose geography had been forgotten with the laying aside of the text books at school. The father too daily read to the eager child portions of the Bible so that he would early form the habit and perceive its literary and spiritual value. However, the Book of Genesis is somewhat dull and drab for those who are not especially concerned over "beginnings" or genealogy. One afternoon, when little David was about to join his father for the Bible reading period, he was heard to remark, "Daddy, let's not have any more 'begats' today."

David is now approaching young manhood, is a student at the Herkimer High School where I doubt not his early habit of developing his memory and of becoming acquainted with difficult reading has made of him an accurate, capable scholar.



Mr. and Mrs. William Lenz  
William H., Ella, Emma and Jane



## CHAPTER VIII

WILLIAM LENZ (1851—1892)

(*Johannes Wilhelm Lenz*)

### SECOND GENERATION

William, son of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabeth Henrietta Regel Lenz, was born at Werdorf, Germany on March 31, 1851.

He was three years of age when the family arrived at Stone Arabia where he received his education at the village school. Later he learned the trade of blacksmith which business he carried on at "Caughnawaga," N. Y. until his sudden death of pneumonia on November 21, 1892 at the early age of 41 years. "Caughnawaga" is the Indian name for Fonda, but was applied in after years more especially to the eastern section of the village where the blacksmith shop was located.

Few men enjoyed such a wide popularity in the business, fraternal, political and civic life of the small village as did he. His opinions and advice weighed heavily in many affairs that concerned the entire county of Montgomery in which Fonda is located. He was essentially a social person with a wide acquaintance and was interested in many projects outside the home, yet in the family circle he was ever the genial, indulgent, kindly husband and father providing generously for present needs and comforts with far-seeing, prudent thoughts for the future as well. He was very business-like in manner, frank, alert, cheerful, jovial, vigorous, energetic, physically fit, with a fearlessness and daring that one associates with people who know not the meaning of illness, fatigue or life's petty annoyances and frettings. He had a pleasing reserve along with his attractive personality which contributed even more to his popularity as a leader, for men have confidence in one whom they feel is discreet and who knows the meaning of "golden silence."

Some of the pleasantest memories of my girlhood days center about the several vacation visits at Fonda with my cousins, his children. As we so frequently stood in the blacksmith shop doorway watching the intricate processes of shoeing the horses or of welding the iron with sparks flying brightly before the puffing bellows—things so novel to me—my admiration for my "Uncle Will" increased momentarily because of his intimacy with horses whose powerful bodies seemed to fill the entire shop. Curiosity drew me, yet I stood

in a chill of terror, poised for flight, for I have never been at ease in the near vicinity of horses unless they are securely tethered. It seemed to me then that only a very brave man would dare take such extreme liberties with animals and seem so utterly calm and unconcerned about dire consequences. Years have not altered this thought of him for he was, indeed, innately courageous and this was but one of many outward signs. He was never annoyed by our frequent appearances in the shop but would often entertain us by doing special things with the anvil or bellows. Even during his busiest hours he would, at times, slip away to observe how things were progressing in the happy home circle—if we children were satisfied at our play, or if I, the small guest, were content. I recall particularly one extremely sultry afternoon, as we all sat idly and listlessly on the long shady veranda, that he suddenly appeared at the window behind us to inquire the reason why we were “making so much noise.” Then with an amused twinkle in his eyes he slipped a row of shining pennies under the window screen which he raised ever so slightly thinking we would not discover them until he had gone back to his work. The transformation was complete. The veranda was no longer a too quiet spot as we compared our several purchases at the neighboring candy shop. To me this cherished scene speaks of a man big hearted, thoughtful, sympathetic—himself eager for seizing happiness, and careful that all beneath his roof should be given abundant opportunity for finding happiness as well.

For many years he was Supervisor of the Poor—“Poor Master”—as the office was designated in that section of the county. It was his duty to daily shelter, feed, and dispose of the affairs of those transient “Knights of the Road”—those misfits of our social order whom we still have in migratory procession. These were housed in a small building lined with bunks and standing at the extreme rear of the large garden where as many as 35 were often sheltered over night. We children were warned to keep our distance from the “Tramp Shanty,” as it was called, and after seeing a few “specimens” being sent there, we needed no second admonition to “keep away.”

With these human derelicts “Uncle Will” was firm, entirely fearless yet kindly and generous. They recognized in his brusque, stern manner a fairness and an interest which commanded respect and a reciprocal square dealing. However, there were experiences that might have resulted disastrously but for his quick thinking and his powerful physique—the latter a distinct asset. He was not one to rehearse these unpleasant matters to gain glory, but one need have only a scant imagination to sense the dangerous situations that might have arisen with such an assemblage of men steeped in ignorance, vice and crime who were claiming his care and protection at all hours of the day or night. He held this position at the time of his death, and much credit is likewise due his faithful wife who prepared



much of the food for these numerous "guests" of the "Tramp Shanty."

In appearance he was fair with small blue eyes, blonde hair and moustache, a full round face. He was tall, muscular with a body that seemed to radiate strength, health, prosperity and well being—a real zest for living.

That one so physically, mentally and temperamentally equipped to meet and combat life's varying demands should so early be asked to relinquish that life seems as though one might whimsically ponder if perhaps, through some grave misunderstanding of instructions, the "Grim Reaper" had selected the wrong person and had borne him away prematurely from all that was dear to him and from those to whom he meant so very much.

His wife was Julia Swift whom he married at Amsterdam, N. Y., on October 6, 1872. She was born at Kiltarten, Ireland, August 15, 1849, the daughter of Bernard Swift and Mary Swift.

She was of medium height with blue eyes, bright auburn hair, fair skin with rosy cheeks, a sunny face—the typical Irish lassie. She was good humored, jolly, with a quiet but ready laugh, and spoke with a brisk native accent that was extremely pleasing. She was a lovable, staunch, dependable woman not at all given to varying moods but to be counted upon to perform her obligations as wife, mother, neighbor and friend with an habitual even balance of thought and emotion. She was capable, thrifty—an excellent housekeeper without show of effort or fussiness. Home meant a place for comfort, cheer and relaxation—a place where life might be enjoyed without annoyance.

A devout Roman Catholic, she trained her children in the faith of her fathers and exemplified her sacred beliefs in all her contacts with others.

She accepted her early widowhood and the rearing of four young children—the eldest and only son barely 15 years of age—with quiet sorrow yet with staunch faith and courage. She had been a loyal co-worker with her ambitious, energetic husband, sharing his plans and economies so that she was left with ample means for continuing the comfortable home life, and for educating the children.

Following the marriage of the children at various intervals, she found herself alone at Fonda, so that she eventually closed her home and spent her time in visits with her several children. When ill health came upon her, she remained at St. Johnsville, N. Y. for the most part with her son, William H. She made occasional visits to her daughters Ella and Emma of Utica. She died at the home of her son, William, May 18, 1927 after a residence of 12 years. Uremia was the cause of her death. She lies buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Sand Flats, Stone Arabia beside her husband who had preceded her by 35 years.

The old homestead at "Caughnawaga" still stands vacant, its shutters tightly closed, its high, shady veranda, that so often lured the family and friends to enjoy its refreshing coolness, is now destitute of chair, hammock or human associations. One is aware too of the old blacksmith shop in the basement of the house, although the ringing, rhythmic music of the anvil has been stilled for more than 44 long years. The wide doors, through which hundreds of well kept horses passed each year for "Uncle Will's" attention, are tightly closed and barred, mute reminders that the master has gone on a journey from which he will never return. The entire scene is, perhaps, meaningless to the casual passer-by—just another deserted homestead that will some day fall in ruins in spite of the attention given to its preservation. Only those who in other days shared in the cheer, the hospitality and even the sorrows of the home life as it was carried on in the old homestead can possibly appreciate how solitary and desolate is that spot bereft of that sturdy, familiar figure and the entire group that circled about him.

My Uncle Will had a meager education and he had no scholastic leanings, yet he was keen and alert to current happenings and was a fine, understanding citizen. Nor was he active in Church affairs, yet he must have been religious, for he lived a truly abundant life—fearless, high spirited, clear-eyed, honest and fair in all his dealings with his fellowmen. Like the other "Village Blacksmith" of the poet's fancy, he too "looked the whole world in the face for he owed not any man," and at eventide, when the wide shop doors were shut upon the day's labors, he could conscientiously claim the right to say—

"Something attempted, something done,  
Has earned a night's repose."

Five children were born to them.

Children:

Frank Lenz (Deceased).

William Henry Lenz.

Mary Ellen Lenz (Mrs. John Charles Greene).

Jane Putman Lenz (Mrs. Judson Davis Yates).

Emma May Lenz (Mrs. George Patrick Flynn).

#### WILLIAM HENRY LENZ (1877—)

#### THIRD GENERATION

William Henry, son of William Lenz and Julia Swift Lenz, was born at Fonda, N. Y. on August 2, 1877.

Following his graduation from the local High School, he learned the trade of master plumber with Cornelius Dwyer at Amsterdam, N. Y. and later he took a course at the New York Trade School.

Upon the sudden passing of the father from the home circle when William was but 15 years of age, he instinctively sensed his respon-



sibility and imperceptibly slipped into his father's place as head of the household. Upon him the mother relied for comfort and advice, for she was not accustomed to handling business or financial matters. The sisters turned to him with a devotion, confidence and obedience as to a father. His conscientious watchfulness over the family, his careful concern for the health, education and welfare of his younger sisters would call for admiration and warm the heart of all who observed such stability of character, such ripeness of wisdom, and clearness of vision in one so young. If for no other reason than the fine spirit and the unselfish devotion in which he served his family in his father's stead, William should go marching down to posterity with honor. Life then stretched before him alluring—like an open, inviting clean, white road—yet, for 14 years he stood steadfastly and loyally beside his widowed mother until the sisters were grown to womanhood and established in homes of their own. Automatically he found himself released from the major duties and responsibilities so uncomplainingly accepted, and he himself was married on June 6, 1906 to Margaret Helen Walsh of St. Johnsville, N. Y.

Upon the death of Albert Metzger at St. Johnsville, N. Y. in 1904 who, since 1880 had conducted a hardware and plumbing business there, William formed a partnership with the son Edward Metzger, his cousin. Shortly afterwards he acquired the entire establishment which he still owns and has enlarged into a flourishing, lucrative business. His son, William, is associated with him as advertising and sales manager.

I quote a brief extract from the St. Johnsville Enterprise and News of June 20, 1934 which will reveal something of his standing as a business man in that community.

"It seems so natural to 'Call up Lenz' whenever anything is the matter with the furnace or the plumbing that one wonders what we would do if there were no Lenz to call up. But Lenz has been here so long that we think of him as a 'fixture.' He came here primarily as a plumber, and a good one, but he has gradually built up a hardware business which is more like a service than a store. If you want it, Lenz has it and that is about all there is to it. Mr. Lenz will equip your house from top to bottom and when through there will be no leaks. He is a workman first and last."

What has thus publicly been expressed of his business integrity may as appropriately be applied to all of his contacts in life, for honesty, uprightness, cleanness and thoughtfulness have from boyhood been the foundations upon which his fine character has been built. He is one of the most widely known citizens of St. Johnsville and vicinity and his name is associated with most of the worth while activities such as church, school, benevolence, and the like. He has served on the school board and the water commission; is a director of the First National Bank; a member of the Valley Towns Association and of the State Hardware Dealers' Association.





WILLIAM H. LENZ



William has many heritages that are distinct assets, chief of which may be counted a jovial, optimistic temperament, a fondness for social contacts, for he is an exceptionally friendly man and meets all classes with unfeigned cordiality and courtesy. He is alive to opportunity, resourceful, practical, judicious with genuine frankness that is tactful and agreeable. He is alert in conversation, has a quick way of speaking and a fine sense of humor. He gives and takes good humored "gibes," but he does all in moderation and with discretion. His hearty, good natured laugh is but an index to his unembarrassed directness, his spontaneity, and his tolerant, kindly intent toward his fellowmen.

More than six feet in height, well proportioned, muscular but not given to stoutness—with clean cut features, he is outstanding physically, for he radiates health and good spirits. His eyes are blue, not large, but twinkle with pleasure and friendliness. His hair medium brown, slightly curling. His ready smile makes him wholly accessible at all times. Even though he may be busily engaged in important affairs, he nevertheless finds time for a courteous nod of recognition, a friendly smile of greeting, a welcome clasp of the hand. He has splendid ideals of citizenship, with wide sympathies and understanding—a personality that has a far-reaching influence in the community.

He and his wife are active members of St. Patrick's Catholic Church of St. Johnsville.

Margaret Helen Walsh, William's wife, was born at St. Johnsville, August 1, 1875, the daughter of Michael Walsh and Julia Curran Walsh.

She died on August 3, 1936 of heart trouble after a brief illness although she had been in delicate health for several years. Margaret was tall, very slender which accentuated her height and gave her a pronounced frailness in appearance. She was fair with blue eyes and medium brown hair. Her life centered in her home and family because she was none too sturdy and therefore, had little reserve of energy to expend outside the necessary affairs that demanded her supervision.

She possessed a vivacious personality, a ready wit and a friendly manner that attracted to her a wide circle of acquaintances and friends. She spent her entire life in her native village and was graduated from the High School in the class of 1891 after which she was actively identified with the business activities of the community until her marriage. She was an operator in the telephone exchange, a bookkeeper in the First National Bank and for a time conducted a millinery store.

The village of St. Johnsville lost a very highly regarded woman when Margaret passed to her rest; St. Patrick's Church and Altar Society lost a faithful, devout member; her family lost a devoted, sympathetic wife, mother, companion and friend. She lies buried

in Prospect View Cemetery. An only son, William Charles, was born to her and William.

Children:

William Charles Joseph Lenz.

WILLIAM CHARLES JOSEPH LENZ (1909—)  
FOURTH GENERATION

William C. J., son of William Henry Lenz and Margaret Walsh Lenz, was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on February 24, 1909.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Charles Lenz  
and daughter Margaret Ann

He was graduated from the local High School and from Syracuse University in the class of 1932. He is a member of Nu Sigma fraternity. Following his return from the University, he became associated with his father in the hardware, heating and plumbing business at 14 Bridge street. As sales and advertising manager of an old established business he enjoys a wide circle of acquaintances in his native village. Like his father, he is congenial, friendly and well liked, is good natured, jolly, energetic—a genial companion and loyal friend. He is more than six feet in height, has brown eyes, auburn hair with fair complexion—a clean, wholesome young man, dependable, capable, prudent, firm in convictions, but not at all opinionated.



On July 5, 1932 he was married to Elizabeth Patience MacWethy who was born at St. Johnsville, N. Y. on April 27, 1909, the daughter of Lou D. MacWethy and Minnie Van Allen MacWethy. Her maternal ancestors, the Miller family, founded Northampton, Mass. in 1654. On her father's side she descends from Governor William Leete, Colonial Governor of Connecticut Colony from 1676 to his death in 1683. Previous to that time he had been identified with the New Haven Colony, from 1639 to 1662 acting for the most part as Governor or Deputy Governor. He was a Puritan who emigrated from England to New Haven in 1637. Elizabeth is therefore, eligible for membership both in the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Colonial Dames.

She was educated in her native village, graduating from the local High School. She attended Potsdam Normal School and was a member of the class of 1931, after which she taught school for several years.

Elizabeth is tall and brunette in type with a very pleasant manner and charming personality.

Children:

Margaret Ann Lenz.

#### MARGARET ANN LENZ (1936—)

##### FIFTH GENERATION

Margaret Ann, daughter of William Charles Lenz and Elizabeth Patience MacWethy Lenz, was born at Little Falls Hospital on February 18, 1936.

#### MARY ELLEN LENZ (1879—)

(*Mrs. John Charles Greene*)

##### THIRD GENERATION

Mary Ellen (known for the most part as Ella) was born at Fonda, N. Y. on May 6, 1879 to William Lenz and Julia Swift Lenz.

She was educated at the local schools graduating from the High School and remained at home until her marriage on February 4, 1903 at Fonda to John Charles Greene, son of William Greene and Elizabeth Lyman Greene. He was born at Mechanieville, N. Y. on November 17, 1872 and is a manufacturer of knit goods at Utica, N. Y. where they took up their residence shortly after their marriage.

He is a man of ambition and energy, alert and keen in judgment. He is of medium height, inclined to stoutness, with very dark hair, now turned to grey, ruddy skin, blue eyes. He is a home loving man who provides abundantly for his family in physical comforts with an eye for their future well being and happiness.

Ella is short and rather delicate in appearance with a somewhat pallid skin that was accentuated by very dark hair and hazel eyes,

in those earlier years when rosy cheeks and health went hand in hand with youth. In those days when I knew her intimately and saw her frequently, she was not at all robust but she was, nevertheless, full of life and energy, ever ready with wit and drollery to liven every situation. She was highly keyed in temperament, because of her abundant energy held in check, soft voiced, with a quiet laugh. She more often made others laugh while she sat soberly by as if wondering at the cause of all this merriment.

It is a source of regret to me that circumstances have placed so



Ella Lenz Greene

many miles between us so that I can no longer speak with intimacy of these kinsfolks of mine whom I once knew as companions in vacation days of our girlhood.

As I write I have been stirred by the very memories of these days as one happy incident follows another in review, and I find myself visualizing Ella in her role of wife, mother, neighbor and friend just as she used to be in her girlhood—quiet, reticent yet secretly vivacious and full of fun; prudent, practical, industrious, super-sensitive, forgiving, very sympathetic and above all home loving. Had I not been told, I would still know that Ella would direct her household affairs and care for her children in a calm manner with untiring devotion and very little outward show of the depth and intensity of her maternal affection. When last I saw her in her home at Utica, she had an endearing motherly manner, the attitude of unobtrusive,



ceaseless vigilance, as though she were guarding rare treasures left in her keeping. Treasures, indeed, were these children born in that home with their dark, heavy, silky hair falling in plump ringlets about their shy, flower like faces.

Grave anxieties and sorrows Ella has borne without flinching for



Julia Greene Powell



Margaret Greene Storandt

she is deeply religious. Both she and her husband are active members of one of the Roman Catholic Churches at Utica and the children were brought up in that faith.

Children:

William Charles Greene.

Julia Elizabeth Greene (Mrs. Thomas Joseph Powell).

Margaret Ellen Greene (Mrs. John M. Storandt) (deceased.)

John Albert Greene.

#### WILLIAM CHARLES GREENE (1904—)

#### FOURTH GENERATION

William Charles, son of John Charles Greene and Ellen Lenz Greene, was born at Utica, N. Y. on July 7, 1904.

He received his education at the Utica Academy and the Utica Business College after which he became an executive with a chain

store with present residence at Batavia, N. Y.

William is six feet in height, sturdily built, with brown eyes and dark brown hair. He is studious, capable, with plenty of executive ability and good judgment, dependable and pleasant in manner.

On July 4, 1930, he was married at New York City to Irene Patrick who was born at Utica, N. Y. on May 29, 1905, the daughter of Arrie Patrick and Stella Kenyon Patrick. She is of medium



William Greene



William James Greene

height with brown eyes and black hair. Her education was acquired at the Utica Academy and the Utica Business College.

One son was born to them.

Children:

William James Greene.

#### WILLIAM JAMES GREENE (1931—) FIFTH GENERATION

William James, son of William Charles Greene and Irene Patrick Greene, was born at New York City on October 18, 1931.

He is a very fine looking lad with brown eyes and dark brown hair.



JOHN ALBERT GREENE (1911—)  
FOURTH GENERATION

John Albert, son of John Charles Greene and Ellen Lenz Greene, was born at Utica, N. Y. on May 17, 1911.

He was educated at the Utica Academy and is a chemist-dyer by profession, with residence at Utica.



John Albert Greene



Norman Greene

On August 18, 1934 he was married to Josephine Cula, daughter of Laurence and Josephine Newman Cula. She was born on March 19, 1913 at Utica, N. Y. and received her education there at the public schools.

She is rather petite in appearance, being little more than five feet in height and is brunette in type. She is vivacious, energetic and winning in her manner.

John Albert is six feet tall, has light brown hair and brown eyes. He is industrious, capable, dependable, honest and sincere in all his relationships.

Children:

John Norman Greene.

JOHN NORMAN GREENE (1935—)  
FIFTH GENERATION

John Norman, son of John Albert Greene and Josephine Cula Greene, was born at Utica, N. Y. on June 22, 1935.

He is fair with blue eyes.

JULIA ELIZABETH GREENE (1906—)  
(*Mrs. Thomas Joseph Powell*)  
FOURTH GENERATION

Julia Elizabeth, daughter of John Charles Greene and Ellen Lenz Greene, was born at Utica, N. Y. on February 24, 1906.

She was educated at the Utica Catholic Academy and the Utica Business College.

She is tall with brown hair and eyes, is energetic and vivacious, ambitious, friendly, with a pleasing personality that attracts and holds many friends.

On October 30, 1928 she was married at Ilion, N. Y. to Thomas Joseph Powell, son of Michael E. Powell and Mary Roach Powell, who was born at Utica, N. Y. on September 24, 1907.

He is tall, sturdy, with brown hair and blue eyes. He was educated at Assumption Academy, Utica and is an electrical engineer by profession. An only child died at birth.

Children:

Margaret Mary Powell (Infant deceased.)

MARGARET ELLEN GREENE (1908—1931)  
(*Mrs. John M. Storandt*)  
FOURTH GENERATION

Margaret Ellen, daughter of John Charles Greene and Ellen Lenz Greene, was born at Utica, N. Y. on December 23, 1908.

She received an education at the Utica Catholic Academy where she was an alert, attentive scholar. She was a sweet, attractive girl with deep blue eyes, brown wavy hair, fair skin. She was slender and of medium height, graceful in her movements with a natural unstudied poise.

On June 17, 1930 she became the wife of John M. Storandt of Utica who was born on February 21, 1909, the son of William Storandt and Frances Sholl Storandt, also of Utica.

He was educated at the Utica Academy and is a salesman. He is tall, has blonde hair and blue eyes, is energetic and capable.

On June 13, 1931, barely a year after her marriage, Margaret was suddenly stricken with acute dilation of the heart, and passed away leaving her family and friends stunned by the unexpectedness of her going.



Short was her stay here and all too early came her summons, yet those who loved her must surely be grateful that she was loaned to earth for even so little time.

"God knows the way.  
He holds the key.  
He guides us with unerring hand.  
Sometime with tearless eyes,  
We'll see and understand."

JANE PUTMAN LENZ (1881—)

(*Mrs. Judson Davis Yates*)

THIRD GENERATION

Jane Putman, daughter of William Lenz and Julia Swift Lenz was born at Fonda on August 2, 1881.



Jane Lenz Yates

She was graduated from the local High School and was employed at the Fultonville Silk Mills, later being a forelady. Following her marriage to Judson Yates of Fultonville, on February 21, 1905, together they began the manufacture of silk goods in a small factory at the rear of their home. They made of this small venture a very prosperous business which they conducted until the national "depres-

sion" of recent years made it seem advisable to discontinue on their own.

Jane is and always has been a jolly, fun loving person, staunch dependable, faithful, genuine in all her contacts. As girls when we knew each other best, she was mischievous, constantly playing pranks while her small grey eyes were ever alert for more ventures, always of the harmless, amusing variety, however. She was tall, plump, had pronounced bright curly auburn hair which has grown to more subdued tones in later years. Her skin was fair and she wore an abundance of freckles in summertime with care free abandon. Her vivaciousness and her good humored laughter were heralds of Jane's approach. Although athletics were not then the vogue for girls, Jane was decidedly an "out door girl" ever ready in sunshine or rain, for whatever of work or play she was called upon to do. As one would expect, Jane was quick tempered, full of fire and animation when aroused, but easily restored to good nature, and she never bore ill will afterwards.

Jane grew into womanhood with that same attractiveness of personality and spirited manner which was tempered as life brought to her greater responsibilities. She is not one to gather crowds about her, but she is gracious, amiable and social in all her contacts with others. She is very energetic, ambitious, capable, foresighted, thrifty but generous and very thoughtful of others.

Judson, her husband, is also a social, genial man. He was born at Fultonville, N. Y. on March 13, 1885 the son of Giles Fonda Yates and Mary Alida Ecker Yates. Both on his paternal and maternal side of the family Judson comes of pioneer stock. The Yates-Fonda-Ecker (also spelled Eacker) families helped to shape the historical life of the Mohawk Valley. Many fought in both the Revolutionary and Civil wars and later helped in the restoration of business and agriculture. Each of these families sent several representatives to the State Legislature, Christopher P. Yates being the earliest in 1784. He was likewise one of the first settlers of Fultonville, N. Y.

Six feet in height, sturdily built with light brown hair and blue eyes set in a pleasant, clean cut face, Judson maintains in his own fine citizenship and private life the high standards set by his forebears. He is frank, outspoken, yet always fair and tolerant in his opinions and estimates. He is jovial with a fine sense of humor, and although his health has not been of the best in late years, he preserves a cheerful outlook on life because of his sunny disposition.

Jane has suffered from rheumatism in severe form in recent years.

Both Judson and Jane are prominent in church, fraternal and social life of Fultonville and vicinity, he being identified with the Masonic fraternity and Jane with the Order of the Eastern Star in which organizations both have held important offices.

No children have been born to them which disappointment they



have accepted with quiet resignation. With their dog "Terry" to give and receive an abundance of affection, they live a comfortable, congenial, useful, well ordered life in the home and the community.

EMMA MAY LENZ (1884—)  
(*Mrs. George Patrick Flynn*)  
THIRD GENERATION



Emma Lenz Flynn

Emma May, daughter of William Lenz and Julia Swift Lenz, was born at Fonda, N. Y. on November 28, 1884.

She was educated at the local schools, graduating from the High School. When I attempt to describe Emma's personal appearance, before my eyes flashes the figure of a very beautiful young woman—tall, slender, fair skinned with rosy cheeks and blue eyes. Brown, very curly hair, softly knotted, that once hung in long shining curls with hints of gold in their silken texture, enhanced the clean cut classic features. One would instinctively associate with her fragrant lilies of the valley or dainty nosegays of shy little blue violets. She was modest, reserved, sweet in manner and temper, gentle and kindly, full of life and energy, yet never boisterous or unduly mischievous, for she was obedient, easily disciplined, accepted advice and counsel gracefully.

Domestic in her tastes, home loving, she looks well to the ways of her household where many friends, too, receive of her gracious hospitality and sympathetic interest in their affairs. She is a thrifty home keeper, cooperating with an equally industrious, capable husband so that life brings to them many satisfying compensations.

George Patrick Flynn, to whom she was married at Fonda, N. Y. on June 25, 1907 was born at Sangerfield, N. Y. on February 15, 1880, the son of Patrick J. Flynn and Alice Titus Flynn.

He is tall with light hair and blue eyes, stout in appearance and in good health. His occupation is that of manufacturer of knit goods which he carries on at Utica, N. Y., where they have resided ever since their marriage.

Both are devout members of one of the Roman Catholic Churches of Utica.

No children were born to them.



## CHAPTER IX

FREDERICK LENZ (1853—1923)

*(Wilhelm Friedrich Lenz)*

### SECOND GENERATION

Frederick was the last child of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabeth Henrietta Regel Lenz to be born in Werdorf, Germany. The date of his birth was October 9, 1853 and he was a babe in arms when the family migrated to America.

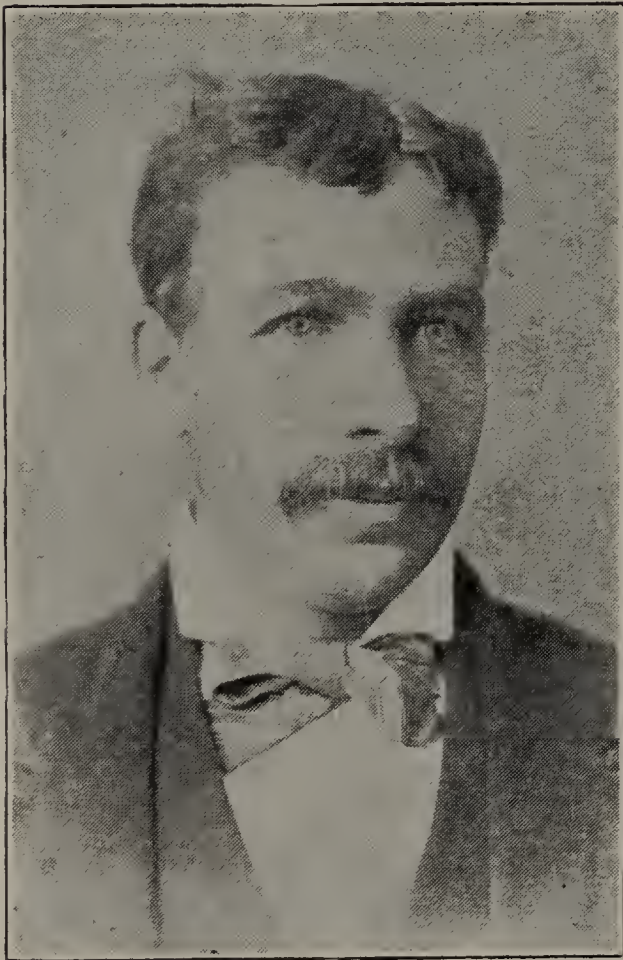
By the time he had reached the school age, the teaching methods had improved perceptibly so that his advantages in education were very much better than were possible for his older sisters and brothers. Memory recalls for me the very correct manner in which he always spoke even to a little child. Each word he carefully enunciated, each sentence was correctly constructed yet without seeming effort.

He learned the trade of cheese making from his brother Henry, (my father) at the Stone Arabia factory and his first location was at the Sprakers factory near Palatine. When father purchased the Cold Springs factory at Stone Arabia, Frederick succeeded him at the vacant Stone Arabia factory where he remained 3 years. In 1888, upon father's removal to Gloversville, N. Y. he came to the Cold Springs factory to replace father. Here an only son, Albert, was born, he having married Catherine Fusmer, daughter of Charles Fusmer and Sarah Dillenbeck Fusmer on December 24, 1884.

He was also engaged in farming, and for several years the family resided on a farm which they purchased at Switzer Hill, near Fonda, N. Y. They soon returned to the business of cheese making, locating at Berryville where they remained for many years until a severe injury to his wife's knee made it seem advisable to move where medical care was easier of access. They came to Gloversville and lived at our homestead at 7 Sixth avenue after our removal to the house at 307 North Main street. It is interesting to note how frequently my Uncle Fred followed in my father's footsteps. My father was very fond of his younger brother, and he naturally went first to him when opportunities for advancement were open for the younger man. My Uncle Fred was equally attached to father and relied much upon his judgment.

Shortly after locating in Gloversville, with my brother Clark as partner a creamery business was opened at the rear of father's grocery store, but city life was not to their liking, so he sold the business

to Clark, and in 1896 he purchased the Dorn farm, east of Johnstown and opened a creamery in the city of Johnstown. The farm is one of the historical landmarks of Fulton county. It was an original grant given by Sir William Johnson in 1749 to ancestors of the present Dorn family from whom he acquired it. It is a very productive farm of some 175 acres with well kept barns and buildings. The house stands far back from the main highway on a hillside giving a marvelous scenic view on all sides. It is white with green blinds, large low rambling rooms, wide verandas, and in spite of its great



Frederick Lenz



Catherine Fusmer Lenz

age is in excellent state of preservation, for my uncle and aunt were extremely particular in the care of all their property at all times.

It was from this beautiful, peaceful rural setting that the "Lord of the Harvest" carried my Uncle Fred even as he was at his labors in the fields in early summer. He was stricken with coronary thrombosis and died on June 9, 1923. He lies buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Sand Flats.

As a small girl I frequently visited my uncle's home at the Berryville factory in summer vacations and, even with the immature eyes and judgment of youth, I felt profound admiration for my Uncle Fred. He was of medium height, sturdily built, fair with light



hair and moustache, very blue kindly, expressive eyes that were often caught with a far-away, wistful look of one who meditates and dreams his dreams in silence. His teeth were beautifully white and well kept in a day when teeth were as a rule neglected, and abandoned to decay and loss. He was wholesome, clean, fine looking, yet it was not simply his physical appearance that impressed and held one. It was the strength of his character, his refinement, his genuine courtesy and kindness, his endless patience. There was about him an habitual steadiness, a reflective coolness of manner that gave to him a composure one felt was not artificially acquired but must assuredly come from hidden, deep rooted sources within. He inherited the placid, mild temperament of his father—that serenity of mind which kept his emotions in restraint—always perfectly balanced. If he experienced moods or temperamental moments they were always in excellent control, carefully withheld from the world, so that his life was but a daily record of quiet dignity, dependability, honesty and uprightness. He was an excellent listener, not at all aggressive or given to argument, but when he expressed an opinion, it was to the point and the result of logical thinking. As one would immediately expect, he was not jovial or talkative, yet one never felt chilled by his silence, for he had a reserve that was so tempered with thorough goodness and kindly interest that one could not feel him purposely aloof. If people spoke ill of another in his presence, he was silent even though he knew full well the truth of the statements made. He seemed always to discourage such unkind rehearsals by his lack of interest and failure to comment. He was quick, however, to quietly but firmly defend others who were being unjustly spoken of.

In business he was methodical, accurate, far-seeing, agreeable, conservative so that all of his decisions came after calm reflection. He was exceptionally successful both as a cheese maker and farmer, for, by his side was his equally capable, thrifty, provident wife ever co-operating in his plans and helping to lay aside an abundance for the future.

Mary Catherine Lenz, his widow, spends a portion of her time each year at the ancient homestead enjoying half-heartedly the fruits of their joint labors. Born with a tendency to melancholy moods and sadness, life must indeed be very empty for her at the dear old home in spite of its beauty and abundance.

In temperament she was the opposite of my nuncle, for she was easily disturbed and distressed at even trifling things, filled with anxieties and apprehensions—always providing mentally against dangers that never arrived.

Ill health, coupled with a severe injury to her knee which forced her into semi-invalidism for several years, all conspired to increase her highly nervous state as well as her somber outlook on life.

She has always been an exceptional housekeeper, painstaking, energetic, orderly, thrifty, never sparing herself until even the smallest



DR. ALBERT LENZ



daily task has been perfectly done. At any hour of the day or night one would always find every thing about the home in perfect order and spotlessly clean. She too is very neat and careful of her personal appearance.

She was born at Stone Arabia on March 12, 1864. On her maternal side she is descended from the pioneer settlers of the Mohawk Valley, the Dillenbecks being often mentioned in the historical affairs of that section. The original spelling of her father's family name was "Vosmer" which should have been retained but was Anglicized to "Fusmer" by the Stone Arabia settlement. At the age of 72 she is still a very fine looking woman preserving in her delicate, finely cut features much of the exceptional beauty with which nature endowed her in her young womanhood. Although I was just nearing four years of age when I was a guest at their wedding, I can still recall what a lovely bride she was as she stood beside my equally handsome Uncle Fred. With her delicate face crowned with soft, wavy brown hair, and her serious grey-blue eyes shyly intent upon the wedding ceremony, she was so daintily sweet that kind memory has preserved for me that wedding scene for half a century.

An only child, Albert was born to them whom she reared to manhood with characteristic forebodings that made her suffer keenly at times lest he be taken from her. Her mother love was intense, which was in keeping with her nature, and it was her good fortune to see her son grow to occupy a place of distinction in the medical profession—a joy and a comfort to her in her long widowhood.

Children:

Albert Lenz, M. D.

ALBERT LENZ, M. D. (1888—)

### THIRD GENERATION

Albert, only child of Frederick Lenz and Catherine Fusmer Lenz, was born at the Cold Springs cheese factory at Stone Arabia on June 27, 1888.

On his maternal side—the Dillenbecks—Albert's American lineage may be traced back for eight generations to the year 1710 when Jorg Martin Dillenbeck, the founder of the American branch, arrived with the second migration of the Palatine Germans who settled the Mohawk Valley. They settled along the Hudson river across from Germantown at New Castle where his Swiss wife and an infant died of privation and exposure, for during that severe winter they lived in huts of boughs and sticks. Jorg Martin, however, was not a native of the Palatinate in the Rhine Valley, for he was born in 1690 in Switzerland near Berne, of the Laupersville Clan of Dillenbecks. The family traces its ancestry back for centuries to this Swiss Alpine region where they are still firmly entrenched, yet, the name is

of German origin. Tradition has it that the first known progenitor was none other than the picturesque Swiss hero, William Tell, since the name is more often spelled Tellebach (Tell's brook), Tellepaugh (also Tillepaugh) and other variations of his name. There are some 20 different spellings used by the various branches of the Dillenbeck Clan.

Shortly after Jorg's arrival, he joined Col. Nicholson's expedition which, in 1711, went into Canada to fight in Queen Anne's War. He was, therefore, the first Dillenbeck to bear arms for his adopted country. Later he fought in the Revolutionary War. Albert is entitled to membership in both the Sons of the Colonial Wars and the Sons of the American Revolution.

This same ancestor was instrumental in the settlement of the Stone Arabia Patent for his name appears in the License from King George III of England to purchase the land from the Indians, dated March 10, 1723, in the Indian Deed of May 10, 1723 and in subsequent transactions covering a period of many years. He was instrumental in founding the Lutheran Church, his name appearing on the deed of May 29, 1732. The name of Hans Dietrick Castleman (Cassel-man) also appears on the deed of the Stone Arabia Patent. He was the father of Jorg Martin Dillenbeck's wife and therefore Albert's forebear. Through Albert's veins, in direct line, flows the blood of many other distinguished hardy pioneers of the Mohawk Valley such as the Sprakers, the Warners, the Cooks, the Neahrs. The line descends through Heinrich Dillenbeck (third child of Jorg Martin Dillenbeck) whose wife was Anna Margaret Wagner.

Albert received his early education at the district schools in the several villages where the family resided and later was graduated from the Johnstown High School.

He was a precocious child, constantly feeding his intensely inquisitive child mind, and the extreme care on the part of his parents to satisfy that alert tendency made him always observing and well informed far beyond his years. Again and again I have heard the lad thoughtfully ask, "But, papa, how, when and why?" Most emphatic of all was the "why." Patiently and painstakingly every such question would be answered to his complete satisfaction and understanding.

Caught by the superstition of the day, that such brilliant children were not destined to remain long on this earth, his mother would often hold him closely—brooding, fearing, weeping lest he be suddenly snatched from her.

He was a beautiful child, blonde with fair curls and such deep blue eyes. He had a serious, quiet manner that was enhanced by a sad little droop to his mouth which, to an observer, might presage for him a temperament somewhat shy, aloof, and given to melancholy, or else might be the earmarks of a genuine serious scholar. Fortunately the latter characteristics developed early in life with extreme



emphasis and following his High School graduation, he pursued advanced studies at Union College, Schenectady, N. Y. and at the Albany Medical College from which he was graduated in the class of 1912. He acted as assistant to his cousin, Dr. George Lenz, at Gloversville for one year and then served for another year as interne at the Nathan Littauer Hospital in that city. He went to Schenectady, N. Y. and entered the office of Dr. Charles G. McMullen where he specialized in X-ray diagnosis and orthopedic surgery. He is also a specialist in radium treatment. He pioneered in deep X-ray therapy for malignant diseases, particularly cancer and is widely recognized as an authority along these lines.

In December, 1930, at a convention of the American Radiologist Society, held at Los Angeles, he was honored by being made a member of the United States Government Commission of five to conduct cancer research.

He has kept thoroughly abreast of the times in his profession by visiting famous clinics, such as the Mayo Brothers and elsewhere, and is a member of several Medical and Scientific Associations, both local and national.

Albert is striking in appearance. The blonde curls are fast turning to silver, but growing older adds distinction to a face that at once indicates a scholarly, thoughtful mind. He is of medium height, sturdily built and appears in excellent health. He is a man who requires little outward entertainment to increase his pleasure or happiness, for he is by nature inwardly equipped to find satisfaction in the quiet, simpler, more serious things of life. Good books, a few carefully chosen friends, now and then travel by land or sea—these constitute his diversions from his duties. This habit of independent living and thinking was acquired in childhood where the loneliness of his rural environment made him almost wholly dependent upon his own resources for entertainment. Even when other children were available as playmates, he was so unaccustomed to their companionship that he seemed happier to go about his own affairs alone with perhaps his faithful dog and cat as ever present play fellows. Many times I have observed him contentedly reading a book indoors while groups of would be playmates noisily romped at games beneath his very window. He seemed almost oblivious of their presence. This aloofness and reserve is a very real part of his personality. It goes without saying that he has the calm, unhurried manner of many of his forebears, particularly of his good father, an easy, natural poise with quiet courtesy. He is slow to anger but exceedingly supersensitive so that his hurts go deeply because of his silence and uncommunicativeness. He is friendly and congenial but not at all talkative or given to jest or joviality. His habitual reticence causes him to be easily embarrassed when one approaches the subject of his outstanding contributions to medicine and science.

His logical, keen mind is ever asking the question of his youth.

"How, When and Why?" Germanic thoroughness, patience and perseverance, coupled with scientific curiosity and thirst for knowledge, marked him from the outset of his medical career for a specialist rather than for general practice.

He is one to attend to the actualities of each day without fretting over what may or may not happen at some future time, but he has provided abundantly for that future by his foresight, thrift and outstanding success in his profession.

On April 23, 1921, he was married at Albany, N. Y. to Cora G. Millet of Whitehall, N. Y. who was born on October 2, 1890, the daughter of George Millet and Mary Mansfield Millet.

She is tall with brown hair and blue eyes, possesses a charming manner and a winning personality. She is energetic, ambitious, thrifty, a cooperating, sympathetic wife who is ideally suited to preside over the home of a busy physician.

No children have been born to them.

(Note: For further information regarding the Dillenbeck lineage please consult the Dillenbeck Genealogy published in 1935 by the Enterprise and News Publishing House, of St. Johnsville, N. Y.)



## CHAPTER X

### ELIZABETH LENZ (1856—1922) SECOND GENERATION

Elizabeth, seventh child of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabeth Henrietta Regel Lenz, was born at Stone Arabia January 26, 1856 and died at the Nathan Littauer Hospital, Gloversville, N. Y., March 23, 1922. Death was caused by pneumonia and a complication of diseases with which she had been afflicted for a period of some eight years. She lies buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Sand Flats. She was endowed with a marvelous constitution that had weathered for some 45 years the frightful strain she had put upon it. She seemed to be superior to bodily ailments so that her invalidism, caused by rheumatism and arthritis, was as pathetic as when some sturdy oak is suddenly struck down.

As she dealt frankly and unsparingly with others so shall I quite as frankly portray her peculiarities as well as her many virtues, for, to picture to posterity "Aunt Libbie" as other than signally different, would displease her in no small measure. She was eccentric from early girlhood, never even partially understood by her family or friends who accepted or condoned her oddities with patient philosophy.

It is difficult to decide what characteristics were outstanding in her, for her moods were so variable. She had what might rightly be termed an indefinable personality—one that eludes analysis and baffles description. She was a mixture of contradictions and inconsistencies. As for illustration, with her relatives—her own—she was not at all generous or considerate, had no patience or sympathy with their illnesses or misfortunes, analyzing them, usually quite openly, as due to some particular carelessness or mismanagement, yet, of friends and neighbors, or even of the far off Japanese or Hindu, she was extremely solicitous contributing generously to the support of missions for the latter, and to the former bringing cheer, flowers, food, dainties to the right and left of her, so that in Johnstown, N. Y. where most of her adult life was spent, she was looked upon by a wide circle of acquaintances as "An Angel of Mercy."

If any one should speak disparagingly of any of her kin, she would loyally defend them, even praise them, behind their backs, but she would never admit to that relative openly that the criticism was unfair. There may have been born people who have equalled her for candor and needless frankness but few who could have surpassed

her. This trait she was wont to exercise quite freely, particularly upon the rising generation of her kin, but as we grew older, we discovered that much of this tartness and ridicule was her perverted sense of humor—her love of tantalizing—and, like most of our elders, we came to accept her varying moods with less violence to our pride and feelings. There were many times when this propensity to chafe and tease was highly entertaining for she had a real gift of description, originality, wit and a way of imitating others that was often delightful. When in uncritical mood and with congenial people, she



Elizabeth Lenz

would be the life of a gathering, heaping one droll, unexpected remark upon another the while she herself never so much as smiled or seemed conscious of the pleasure she was so generously giving. She was a gracious, genial, clever hostess, and a good conversationalist, if she could avoid a natural tendency to argument or to dispensing advice not always palatable to others because of her intolerance and self assurance. Memory supplies for me incidents of several pleasant brief visits at her home and as I look back with mature vision upon her personality and her eccentricities, I have come to believe that she was a very lonely woman with a heart of gold, restraining with difficulty a great affection which she was too shy to reveal to the world, so that, gruffness was her weapon of defense. Perhaps we



of her kin took "Aunt Libbie" too literally, too complacently; perhaps we did not try persistently enough to penetrate this armour and to discover the real kindly woman beneath.

Cheated by nature of woman's coveted right to physical attractiveness, her only weapon against mediocrity was to be outstandingly different from the rest of her kin—unique by her eccentricities. To have five stalwart handsome brothers and two fine looking, charming sisters and then to be born "The Ugly Duckling" of the family is not an enviable role for any one much less for a spirited, ambitious girl. She was of medium height, fairly well proportioned, erect and strong. Her small green-grey eyes—noticeably crossed even after a delicate surgical operation—were set in a long equally unattractive face. Her skin was swarthy, her hair indefinite in color, leaning to dingy blonde; her teeth were discolored and far too conspicuous, all out of proportion to the size of her face. Her voice was well modulated when she kept the disgruntled note out of it, and she had a pleasant laugh. Again her cleverness is evident in keeping herself from an inferior place in life, for she had excellent taste in dress and only the finest materials, made by an expert tailor or seamstress, found their way into her wardrobe so that she commanded attention—a distinctive place all her own in other people's thoughts. She impressed herself upon you so that you would not forget "Aunt Libbie."

Altho she was temperamental and vacillating, yet she was faithful to duty, dependable and honest. She was extremely energetic, ambitious, resourceful, shrewd in business matters, thrifty, frugal, even penurious at times so that she was able to accumulate a comfortable estate which made her somewhat unsympathetic and critical of others who had been less fortunate in their investments or less foresighted.

She was very outspoken against women's clubs and organizations, for she believed that a married woman's place was in her home, yet she herself rendered a zealous, faithful, unselfish service to her church societies and at her death she bequeathed her entire estate to St. Mark's Lutheran Church of Johnstown where a memorial tablet has been placed in recognition of her generous gift, and of her service throughout the years. The words of her pastor, spoken in eulogy, were beautiful in their sincerity and revealed that portion of herself which she had dedicated to God and to her church but had very carefully concealed from her kin for some unaccountable reason. Her real estate and bonds went directly to the church while her household goods and personal belongings were given to the Women's Missionary Society in which she had in life been an ardent worker. The proceeds of their sale were used to furnish a room in her memory in the Janice James school at Kumamoto, South Western Japan. This school was dedicated in May, 1926. It is of High school rating, fully endowed, so that it is listed in the Imperial Department of Education and admits directly to colleges and universi-

ties. Here too is a bronze tablet bearing the name of "Elizabeth Lenz"—attesting to her missionary spirit and generous thought of others.

Lest any one who reads this personality sketch should infer that undoubtedly the family were at fault in thus being disregarded as a whole by her, let me say that, with here and there an exception, the family treated "Aunt Libbie" uniformly with far more consideration and forbearance than was her due in the years of her remarkable health and self-sufficiency. When illness struck her down by degrees, she immediately turned to her kin for consolation and attention. Knowing full well her own mother's intense suffering with the same affliction, she seemed to dread the lone vigil with her pain so that, for several months at a time, she would close her house and go about visiting with her relatives, extending such prolonged stays to include even the children of her nieces and nephews, who in genuine sympathy for her in her suffering and aloneness, gave her gladly every attention, often at tremendous inconvenience to the whole household. My brother, Dr. George Lenz, of whom she was particularly fond, was her only physician, barring the medical treatment she had received at sanatoriums or medicinal baths where George frequently took her, largely to satisfy her own mind. He made regular calls upon her wherever she happened to be temporarily staying, interrupting his own very busy practice to drive the many miles to give her care and cheer. He frequently cared for her in his own home where she received far more kindly, sympathetic attention than the best sanatoriums could have given her. There was never a thought of payment for his services, just a desire to spare her as much suffering as he could. As he sat close beside her hospital bed, when Death seemed insistently approaching, awaiting the lawyer's request for his signature of her will, even then she had no thought of his great kindness to her throughout the many years of her illness—not a single word of praise or appreciation, or some slight token of gratitude especially designated for him in her legal bequests. Nor was there any thought either for her younger brother John and his gracious, kindly wife, who had throughout their entire married life, relieved her entirely of her share of financial and moral responsibility concerning her invalid mother and aged father. No kindly thought for "her own," yet, with her fading strength, she could still remember, with philanthropic zeal, the needs of her church, the altar upon which she had placed her "treasure" of time, energy and money, and the crying want of the far off peoples of the Orient. "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Strange, indeed, illogical, inconsistent, variable, penurious, inordinately selfish and egotistical, charitable, good, faithful, dependable, loyal, open handed was "Aunt Libbie"—a dual personality—and so she remained to the end of the chapter—unique, outstanding, illusive, impenetrable—an enigma.



## CHAPTER XI

JOHN LENZ (1858—1926)

(*Johannes Lenz*)

### SECOND GENERATION

John, youngest child of Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabeth Henriette Regel Lenz, was born at Stone Arabia, N. Y. on April 21, 1858. He received a meager district school education and helped with the duties of the farm.

He must surely have slipped into the world on a streamer of sunshine and become thoroughly steeped in its golden warmth for he was the most sunny, radiantly happy, genuinely alive person I have ever had the good fortune to know. My uncle was in his late twenties when I grew old enough to even partially appreciate his magnetic personality, but those who had known him from birth have assured me that he had always been that way—the life and joy of the home and the neighborhood. He was jovial, active, carefree, with a snatch of song on his smiling lips, yet he was never intrusive to the degree of annoying others by over-hilariousness. In fact, he seldom laughed other than in a quiet subdued manner. He had a fine sense of humor and was an inveterate tease but he never exceeded the limit of propriety. His fun was created out of a clean mind and was therefore of the easy, natural, unembarrassed kind that contributed spirit and warmth to a friendly circle impelling others to be more cheerful and happy. His grey-blue eyes still danced with amusement or mischief even when the slower pace of middle life had come upon him. One sensed a pleasant, kindly thought behind every expression of his ever changing, happy face even before a single word had been spoken. That no hateful, uncharitable words ever escaped his lips is but in keeping with his fine character and good judgment.

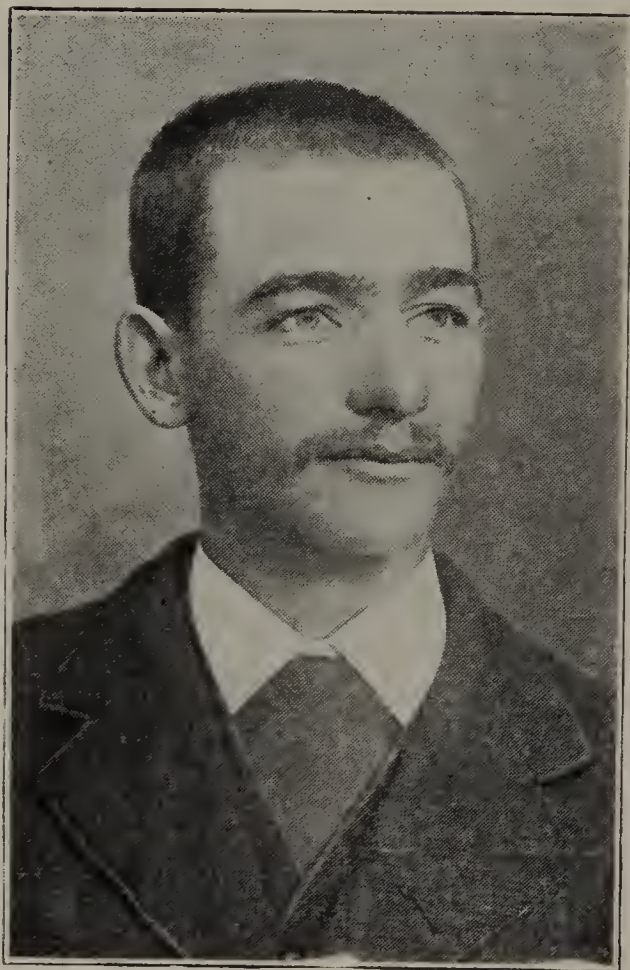
He cared little for conventionalities of dress although on Sundays and special occasions he was quite willing to don the unaccustomed starched shirt and collar that irked him into half unconsciously hitching at them. He was made for freedom, comfort and naturalness—to have his throat and arms bare to the sun, wind and rain, not fettered to please the whims of the stylist.

How he romped with us when we children were guests at his rural home. Whether we climbed to the roof of the barn or burrowed deeply into the hay mow, he never scolded but would be by our side—gay and lively—enjoying with us the somewhat venturesome fun thus making our stay at their home memorable and alluring. He was

of medium height, slender and lithe, with brown hair, and sun tanned skin so that he might readily have passed for a boy at play with us but for the moustache he always wore.

He was a lovable, much loved person, thoughtful of others, never complaining, habitually satisfied with what life had to offer, yet quietly seeking to improve conditions if it lay within his power to do so, for he was very ambitious, thrifty and foresighted, a good worker and a good provider.

In the early days of automobiles, before roads had been especially



John Lenz



Elizabeth Regel Lenz

constructed to care for this newer traffic, he was severely injured by a careless driver. For months he lay strapped to a bed at the Nathan Littauer hospital in Gloversville. Although many bones were broken, he never complained of undue pain nor bemoaned his misfortune. Each caller came away from his bedside impressed by his courage and refreshed by his unquenchable humor and cheer. Some amusing account of his hospital experience would be told and always he would stress the wonderful care he was receiving, the friendliness of the nurses and doctors. In reality it was his own friendliness that was creating the atmosphere, for the nurses adored him and told of his thoughtfulness for them—how he made light of his own suffering to spare them wherever possible. To one of his energetic



temperament, this enforced idleness must have been frightful, yet no outward sign of discontent or self-pity was evident.

On December 12, 1883 he was married to Elizabeth Wilhelmina Regel—his first cousin. The ceremony was performed at Palatine, N. Y., the officiating clergyman being the Rev. W. W. Gulick. She is the daughter of Karl Henry Regel and Margaret Rupp Regel (both deceased) and was born at Werdorf, Germany on October 14, 1863.

Following their marriage they lived at the Lenz homestead and about a year later they moved to the Widow Vosburg farm adjoining to act as caretakers. The invalid mother and elderly father came with them. It was here that their only child, Anna, was born on October 23, 1887. Shortly after the child's birth, my grandmother passed from her invalidism of 20 years duration to the peaceful sleep of death. When some years later, the Widow Vosburg passed on, the family, with grandfather included, moved to Fonda, N. Y. in 1891, where John became caretaker of a large estate owned by Wm. Campbell. In 1892 he was appointed Supervisor of the Poor to succeed his brother William who had died while holding that position. He was retained in that office for several years. Caring for "tramps" was a daily duty which he performed in his characteristically good natured, kindly way, yet he never permitted deception, for he was strict, quick to detect insincerity. No honest wayfarer went his way hungry or poorly cared for, but he spent none of the public funds upon deceivers.

In all of his dealings he was trustworthy, upright, dependable and honest so that he required of others the same integrity and fair play with which he dealt with them. He was a fine citizen and although his life consisted in the performance of humble, unpretentious duties, he nevertheless did each task well and conscientiously so that he was well and favorably known throughout Montgomery County.

He retired from farm life and purchased a home on Main street, Fonda, N. Y. where his widow still resides. For some years he was engaged in interstate trucking which he thoroughly enjoyed because of the contacts he made and the interesting, fresh experiences he encountered each day. He was financially able to retire, but he stuck to his task for the sheer joy of meeting people, and because his energetic temperament would not permit him to take life so easily. It was while engaged in his duties that he contracted a severe cold which resulted in pneumonia, and after a brief illness, he passed away on February 28, 1926. He lies buried at Evergreen Cemetery at Sand Flats.

Elizabeth Wilhelmina Regel, his wife, was ideally suited to his temperament. She was the slow, methodical, quiet type, going about her daily tasks unruffled yet accomplishing much with no waste of energy. At times she was wont to hum snatches of a hymn or folk tune, and she always seemed altogether content with her comfortable.

uneventful life. She was a prudent, economical helpmate, with the interest of her family foremost in her thought.

She accepted the teasing and joviality of her husband in equal good humor often repaying him in similar vein.

To be kindly, unselfish, sympathetic, thoroughly good and wholesome, jolly, agreeably frank, never fluctuating, but always so very dependable in all things—that has been the faithful part she has played, and still plays, in life. Home loving and home staying for the most part, her contacts have been limited, yet, many a heart beats more happily when she is near, and thoughts of her are always pleasant.

She is not at all striking in appearance for she is short and well rounded though not stout. She has yellowish blonde hair, large blue eyes and olive skin; her features are not regular, her hands are well accustomed to work but the sincere, substantial, homey atmosphere she carries about her makes her wholly attractive, very gracious—welcome everywhere. Life has snatched from her many of her choicest treasures—her many dear ones—and she lives alone at the Fonda homestead, warmed at times, or perhaps more often saddened, by memories of those other days, yet she has kept herself free from melancholy moods or bitterness. Her good face is a trifle stiller, but who can look for it to be genuinely content and gay when every hour the long day through brings gentle recollections of him who walked so closely beside her—himself the embodiment of sunshine, cheer and clean industrious manhood.

#### TRIBUTE

"You are not dead—Life has but set you free!  
Your years of life were like a lovely song,  
The last sweet poignant notes of which held long,  
Passed into silence while we listened, we  
Who loved you listened still expectantly.

For us who knew you, dread of age is past.  
You took life, tip-toe, to the very last;  
It never lost for you its lovely look;  
You kept your interest in its thrilling book;  
To you Death came no conqueror; in the end—  
You merely smiled to greet another friend."

—R. H. MONTGOMERY.

Children:

Anna Lenz (Mrs. Lewis Snell Van Epps).

ANNA LENZ (1887—)  
(*Mrs. Lewis Snell Van Epps*)  
THIRD GENERATION

Anna, only child of John Lenz and Elizabeth W. Regel Lenz,



was born at the Vosburg farm in Stone Arabia, N. Y. on October 23, 1887.

When she was but a small child the family moved to the Campbell farm at Fonda, N. Y. where her education was acquired. Following her graduation from the local High School, she was employed as operator and also as forelady in a silk manufacturing plant which position she held until her marriage to Lewis Snell Van Epps on September 27, 1910. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. William J. Lonsdale at Fonda, N. Y.

Anna is vivacious, energetic, has a frank, brisk, almost business-like manner. She is extremely friendly, hospitable, good natured and slow to anger although she has plenty of spirit when stirred. She would cheerfully and uncomplainingly overtax her own energies to fulfill some promised task, for she is untiring and wholly unselfish in doing for others. Her chief concern in life is her home and family whose interests, comfort and happiness are placed ever before her own. Pride in their accomplishments brings greater joy to her than any purely personal attention directed her way, for she is by nature very self-effacing. She is a companionable wife, mother, neighbor and friend, open handed, not exacting in her demands upon life, for her tastes are wholesome and simple. She is practical, economical, ambitious, disereet, dependable, foresighted with a cheerful, jolly manner and a bright smile that breaks into a ready, hearty laugh. She approaches her tasks with vim, alertness and enthusiasm as if eager to make way for new duties to attack. She speaks rapidly, often punctuating her remarks with gay little bits of laughter, for she is of a highly nervous temperament in spite of her evenness of disposition. This may be traceable to previous years of prolonged ill health from which she has been almost entirely freed. Many of the fine traits of her parents are abundantly reproduced in Anna although she lacks the serene, unhurried manner and outlook on life so obviously characteristic of them both. I fancy she is inclined to be apprehensive at times—to fret somewhat—but she is not one to relate her troubles or anxieties in self pity.

In appearance Anna is of medium height, well proportioned, with fair hair, large expressive blue eyes set in a round face that reflects her various emotions as faithfully as a mirror. She is sturdy, alive, high spirited, ever ready, at a moment's notice, to enter into the plans of her family and friends where her congenial companionship is an energizing influence at all times.

Lewis Snell Van Epps, Anna's husband, was born at Fonda, N. Y. on January 22, 1888 to Arthur G. Van Epps and Elizabeth Snell Van Epps.

The forebears of both these families were of the early Revolutionary stock that settled the Mohawk Valley. In 1750 John Evart Van Epps settled at what is now called Fultonville, N. Y. which then became known as "Van Epps Swamp" from the unclaimed, marshy

land in that section. Van Epps bought 900 acres of Johannes Visger and this particular part of the Visger patent comprised all of what is now the Village of Fultonville.

The Van Epps were patriot soldiers and their house was twice burned during the Revolution. The present house, built some 180 years ago, is one of the historic landmarks of the Mohawk Valley. It is a large, rambling old homestead in an excellent state of preservation, and is occupied by the sixth generation of the Van Epps family.

The maternal forebears—the Snells—were likewise of splendid



Right: Anna Lenz Van Epps  
Center: Mrs. John Lenz  
(Mother)  
Left: Elizabeth Van Epps White

pioneer stock and were also patriot soldiers. It was mentioned in the roster of the Battle of Oriskany that "nine Snells went into the battle and seven remained there." It is believed that five brothers and a brother's son, a fifer, were killed in action and that the survivors were their cousins.

Six Snells fought in the Civil War as did one Fisher Van Epps. Members of both the Snell and Van Epps families served at various times in the State Legislature.



In the late 19th Century the "Snell Hotel" at Fonda was for many years the largest and most widely known hotel in that region. The genial proprietor, Jacob Snell, grandfather of Lewis, was a huge man weighing something like 350 pounds. To be called as "fat as Jake Snell" was a comparison that even a small child would understand.

Lewis inherits much from his sturdy courageous forebears. He is keen, alert, capable in business, full of energy with plenty in reserve, resourceful, courageous, even daring at times. His fearlessness makes him seem always ready to meet, without flinching, whatever his lot may be yet he is not one to meekly accept what lies in his power to overcome. He is aggressive, but agreeably so, yet the fighting spirit of his soldier ancestors, now latent within him, would do a thorough job of defense if the occasion were to arise. He is affectionate, devoted to his home and family, jolly with a ready laugh and a keen lively wit. He has amusing stories and anecdotes at his tongue's end so that no company is ever dull when Lewis is present. He has exceptional health and vitality, is of medium height with powerful physique, dark hair, fair skin, with blue eyes that rove with interest or amusement.

For many years after their marriage they resided at Albany, N. Y. where Lewis is employed as conductor on the N. Y. Central Rail Road. A few years ago they took up their residence at Selkirk—a suburb of Albany—where they built a very attractive home.

Children:

Elizabeth Lenz Van Epps (Mrs. Claude Adelbert White).

Lewis Snell Van Epps (Deceased).

#### ELIZABETH LENZ VAN EPPS (1911—)

*(Mrs. Claude Adelbert White)*

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Elizabeth, daughter of Lewis Snell Van Epps and Anna Lenz Van Epps, was born at Albany, N. Y. on September 28, 1911.

She received her education at the Albany public schools, at the New York State College for Teachers at Albany, and at the Albany Business College.

Elizabeth is striking in appearance because of her very beautiful blonde wavy hair, delicate white complexion and large blue eyes. She is dainty and petite, very neat in appearance, somewhat reserved and shy in manner but pleasant, with an ever breaking friendly smile that gives her an unaffected charm. Although she has held a responsible position as bookkeeper and stenographer with a large business in Albany ever since her graduation from business college, she is domestic and home loving—a very thrifty, practical, capable home keeper—who brings into the management of her affairs the same business judgment she employs at her office. She is energetic in a

quiet, unhurried way, takes life calmly with poise and without aggressiveness, for she has an even, dependable disposition.

She was married on August 4, 1934 to Claude Adelbert White, son of Adelbert Elliot White and Nancy May Taylor White of Middleburg, N. Y. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. William J. Lonsdale, pastor of a church at East Greenbush, N. Y., formerly pastor at Fonda, N. Y., who in 1910 married her father and mother there. Her Grandmother Van Epps was likewise married by him to her second husband.

Adelbert was born at Preston Hollow, N. Y. on September 6, 1911. He was educated at the Delmar and Albany High Schools and at the Albany Business College. For several years he was leader of a well known orchestra at Albany, he being a trombone player. By occupation he is a contractor in painting and interior decorating.

He is of medium height with dark hair and pleasant, friendly face. He radiates energy and ambition for he is quick in his movements, alert, capable, dependable, honest and upright in his dealings. In company he is somewhat retiring and quiet, but is congenial and unassuming in manner. He gives the impression of having a definite goal in life to which he is consciously directing his best efforts.

They are congenial companions, considerate of each others time and plans since both are daily in contact with the business world. Elizabeth having retained her secretarial position after her marriage. They reside at Elsmere, N. Y.

No children have been born to them.

#### LEWIS SNELL VAN EPPS, 2nd. (1913—1916)

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Lewis Snell, son of Lewis Snell Van Epps and Anna Lenz Van Epps, was born at Albany, N. Y. on September 28, 1913 and died on August 10, 1916. Death was caused by autointoxication after a brief illness. He lies buried at the Sand Flats cemetery.



## CHAPTER XII

### CONCLUSION

Here we bring to a close our "First Chronicle of Remembrance"—the individual and collective experience of the Lenz clan covering a period of several centuries. If it has stirred gentle recollections, happy memories, ennobling thoughts, then this record has accomplished the purpose for which it was created.

The charm of our own history is that we may never write "Finis". Genealogical and historical events cannot stand alone, for they form an unbroken chain, and each moment of the day we of the present are quietly forging the new links that shall inevitably forever bind the past with the future.

The work of all historians is absorbing and inspiring and mine has indeed been a delightfully pleasant, compensating experience. Someone has given this beautiful thought to the world—"God gave us Memory that we might have roses in December." That touching phrase has been recurring so very often during the several years that this record has been in preparation, for this "Book of Remembrance" has been shedding for me a silent fragrance as sweet and inspiring as the breath of many roses. For these many years I have continuously lived in fancy with those ancestors in far off Europe, and in America too, who bore the name of Lenz or were of the Lenz kin. That sense of an invisible, individual comradeship will continue to abide with me so long as life lasts. In vision I sometimes walk in a friendly garden beside a sturdy, capable Great Great Grandmother as she slips away for a moment from her spinning or weaving to admire her carefully tended flowers while Great Great Grandfather—with the thought of providing for the health of his family—turns his attention to the care of the vegetables and herbs or prunes the precious fruit trees. I too follow their clear blue eyes as they turn instinctively to the sunlit hillsides where sons and daughters are plucking clusters of luscious purple grapes from the vineyards. Farther on another sturdy son watches the fattening sheep and tends the delicate lambs beside the cool waters of the little River Dill perhaps

dreaming of the day when he would be tending his own flocks and leading them at eventide to his sheep fold within his own little farm-yard.

I smile happily at the dainty sweetness of some shy sweet faced "Fraulein Lenz" as she dreamily attends to the household duties softly humming a love tune while anxiously awaiting the verdict of her parents as to when her betrothal will take place to some village swain of their selection. And then the marriage festivities claim my attention and, in due time, happy baby feet being led from humble doorways out into the sunlight, perchance to show a neighbor the first proud step alone or the first dainty pearl white tooth. As the years move on I rejoice with them to see other children come trooping home in joyous release from school, and, all too soon glide into places of responsibility in the "School of Life."

At times Vision spreads before me only the silence of evening brooding over the valleys and hillsides mingling with the contentment within the well kept village houses. Here and there pale wisps of smoke issue from dark chimney tops; gay little fire-flies wink through the stillness at the smiling moon as if in imitation of the twinkling stars above, and, the lazy, monotonous hum of crickets lulls the households to peaceful slumber.

I stand in silent sorrow beside fathers, sons and husbands as they bid farewell to all this peace and serenity to answer the call of the "Fatherland" in defense of these fertile valleys and the beloved Rhine. Erect and watchful they stand in some cold grey castle watchtower. Their sad blue eyes faithfully roaming the surrounding country for the covetous, lurking foes, the while their hearts yearn ever for the hills and vales of home. And then the soldier figures appear no more for me at their posts, for their blood has gone to mingle with the waters of the beloved Rhine or the little River Dill.

Again and again I pause beside little mounds that render the soil of the "Fatherland" as sacred as where those soldier fathers gave up their lives in defense of those little loved ones.

In vision I walk in stately Castle halls beside those fair young Countesses who too bore the name of Lenz, as in rich velvets and jewels, they move with gracious dignity among the distinguished guests. The Castle gates swing wide to admit the Counts von Lenz who, dismounting from their spirited horses, view the distant snow capped mountains and forests while giving directions to the soldiers for the protection of the Castle for the night. It was the day of chivalry—when "Knighthood was in Flower." Castles sheltered whole regiments to guard their lord's estate from siege. Life moved with danger, swiftness and color.

I look with profound respect and admiration upon those literary, scholastic and professional geniuses whose well used talents have given immeasurable pleasure and benefit to the world.

Most vividly I see a farm house grown quite as grey as the small



grey old man whose dear familiar figure was wont to pass in and out of its humble doorways. Down beside the garden wall I feel once more the large, plump gooseberries, deep dark red in their sun ripened sweetness—far more luscious than any I have ever yet tasted—bees, birds, and hungry little boys and girls were alike in helping themselves to the tempting wine red fruit.

This intermingling procession of farm houses and castles, soldiers and shepherds, cradles and graves, laughter and tears moves in kaleidoscopic beauty—appropriately and naturally—out of the historical and traditional discoveries of the centuries, and we realize with a sense of admiration how the chain of usefulness has never been severed—each family, each generation of Lenz progenitors has made a worthy contribution to life.

I do not know with what correctness I have traced the ancestry of my grandparents, Friedrich Konrad Lenz and Elizabeth Henriette Regel Lenz, founders of our American branch of the Lenz clan, but surely no one will question the validity of my conclusion that the Lenz heritage from even the remotest past has been uniformly one of physical, moral and spiritual cleanness and integrity—those indefinable forces that, in every age, foster rational, purposeful living, and have produced consistently in the Lenz clan to the present moment dependable, staunch men and women with high ideals and quiet strength to perform life's duties regardless of consequences.

That my deductions are not without scientific basis is clearly indicated by the fact that the most profound thinker, the keenest psychologist and student of nature and human nature, the ablest teacher the world has yet produced—Jesus of Nazareth—expounded as the fundamental truth of all successful living these same indisputable laws of cause and effect—

“Ye shall know them by their fruits.”

“Do men gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles?”

A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

Wherefore, by their fruits ye shall know them.”

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Part I.—The ancient Lenz kin who belonged to nobility as indicated by the sign “von” before the surname.

Part II—Christian names of those bearing the name Lenz.

Part III—Lenz descendants or kin, and, those connected by marriage bearing other surnames.

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